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FALL 1977

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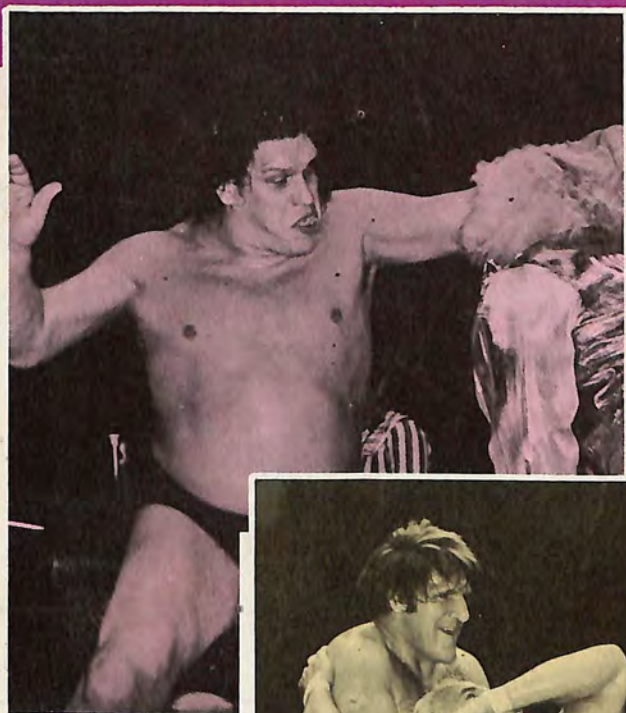
# Wrestling

**1977 ANNUAL**

*Your Votes Are In:*

**OUR BEST  
WRESTLER  
TOURNAMENT  
BEGINS**

*Who Is The Top  
Wrestler  
Of Today?*





# Super

## BODYBUILDING COURSE —

### INTRODUCING

THE BODYBUILDING SYSTEM THAT GUARANTEES —  
**YOU'LL PUT ON INCHES OF POWERFUL  
MUSCLES ON YOUR BODY!**

At last, NEW bodybuilding secrets are now available for your use. Finally, after years of experimenting we have come up with the fastest muscle building system in the world. Our course really works — **thousands** have taken our course and have obtained fantastic results. Right in the privacy of your own bedroom, you can completely transform your body.

### SEE YOUR MUSCLES GROW DAY BY DAY!

You can have **POWERFUL MUSCLES FAST** . . . not by years and years of hard work . . . but by simply following our fascinating system . . . a system that works so fast you can see results from day to day! Isn't that the kind of course you want? We absolutely guarantee results.

HERE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE LETTERS WE HAVE RECEIVED

"Wow! I'm making fantastic gains, following your new method of muscle building. I never knew it could be so easy to build muscles."  
J. Johnson

"I was a skinny weakling when I enrolled, now I've gained 30 pounds in just 45 days. I am truly amazed, I'm going to be dynamite on the beach."  
B. Abbott

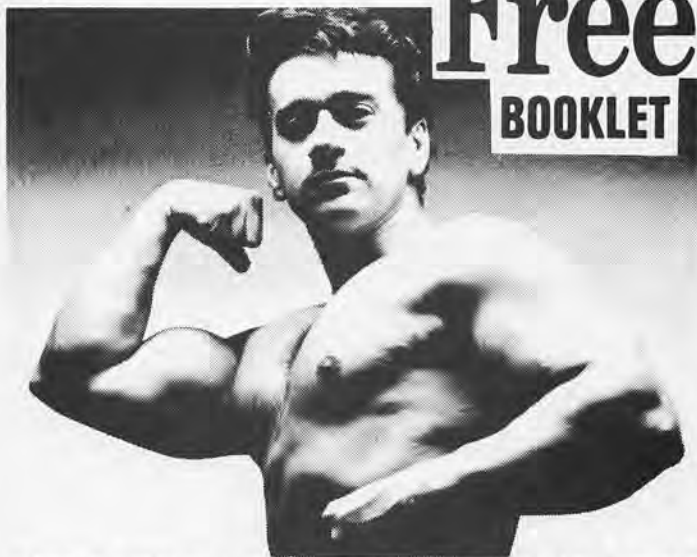


"In just 3 weeks I have gained 1½" on my arms and 4" on my chest. I have also lost 4" off my waist. Your course is just great!"  
D. Roberts

"I'm transforming all the fat off my body and changing it into rock-hard muscle. It's amazing. I have lost 8" off my waist. I can actually see my muscles growing from day to day."  
P. Williams

"I have gained 20 pounds in just 30 days and I have gained over 6 inches on my chest. I find that my power has doubled. In sports I am a winner in everything I do."  
B. Daniels

"I have gained 5" on my arms and 12" on my chest, while losing 3" off my waist. I have tripled my power and speed. Thanks for what you have done for me!"  
M. Robinson



**Free  
BOOKLET**

MORRIE MITCHELL GAINED 65 POUNDS OF MUSCLE WHILE FOLLOWING OUR 'REVOLUTIONARY NEW METHODS' ON BODYBUILDING.

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- ★ **DOUBLE OR TRIPLE YOUR STRENGTH** in record time! It wouldn't take long before you can perform feats of strength.



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MUSCLES WILL  
APPEAR . . .  
ALMOST LIKE  
MAGIC!**



**FAT?  
FAT WILL  
DISAPPEAR —  
REPLACED BY  
MUSCLES!**



**YOUR NEW  
MUSCLES WILL  
FEEL LIKE  
DYNAMITE!**

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Shoot the 'works' to me free! Rush me all that free muscle-building information, so that I can add inches of powerful muscles — all in the privacy of my home. I am sending 25¢ to help cover postage and handling costs. I am under no obligation. (Please print)

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY**

**FREE!**



# BE A LOCKSMITH



**JOHN KOLIELNIK**  
(Los Angeles, Cal.)  
"Now that I'm a locksmith, I've increased my salary by at least \$175 a week. Even earned \$550 before completing the course! I think the Locksmithing Institute is the best!"



**HARRY PROVART, JR.**  
(Duquoin, Ill.)  
"Locksmithing Institute has the best course that money can buy, and my instructor was tops. Earned \$200 while training . . . since then I've earned \$350 spare time."



**IDEAL F. BALDONI II**  
(Riviera Beach, Fla.)  
"Enrolled because I eventually want to be self-employed. As a result of my training, I've assumed locksmith jobs my company formerly hired outside people to perform."

## TRAIN AT HOME—EARN WHILE YOU LEARN

Add to **YOUR INCOME**—even double it with easy spare-time earnings. Cash in on the nationwide shortage that demands hundreds more trained locksmiths. Quickly step into a big pay opportunity, full- or part-time job or start a high-profit shop of your own! Even earn as you learn.

## EARN EXTRA MONEY RIGHT AWAY!

You can quickly qualify as a skilled locksmith. Age, education, even minor physical handicaps don't matter in this ever-growing trade. So easy to learn—it's easy, it's fun, it's just like a fascinating new hobby!

Study at home as little as one hour a week. All special professional tools, supplies, including files, tweezers, cylinders, door handles, assemblies, gauges, pins, springs, extractors, picks, wrenches, and different kinds of locks and keys—even key machine—supplied to you! Gain practical experience by doing real jobs

on car locks, house locks, padlocks, safe locks, etc. Just follow well-illustrated lessons under the guidance of experts.

For a future as your own boss or in a high-pay job, get all the facts, complete details. Write today for **FREE Illustrated Book**, **FREE Sample Lesson Pages** give exciting facts. (No cost, no obligation, and no salesman will call.)

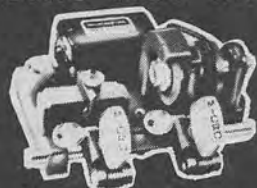
Our School, (Established 1948) is licensed by the State of N.J. and an Accredited Member of the National Home Study Council. Also approved for Veterans Training, under the new G.I. bill.



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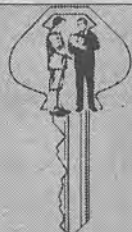
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Your  
Opportunities  
in  
Locksmithing



# Wrestling

1977 ANNUAL

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# The secret of teaching yourself music



It's just organized common sense, says this 75-year-old home-study school. Their step-by-step word-and-picture instructions take the mystery out of learning to play the piano, the guitar, or the spinet organ.

It may seem odd at first—the idea of teaching yourself music. You might think you need a private teacher at \$4 to \$10 an hour to stand beside you and explain everything you should do—and tell you when you've made a mistake.

But surprising as it seems, you need no such thing. Thousands of people just like you have taught themselves to play with the U.S. School of Music courses. By mail. And you can too.

The secret lies in the step-by-step way our lessons teach you. Starting from scratch, they show you with simple words and pictures exactly what to do. You learn to play correctly—by note, from sheet music. Without gimmicks.

But how do you know you're doing it right? Easy. A lot of the tunes you'll practice first are simple songs you've heard before. And since you already know how they're supposed to sound, you can tell right away when you've "got them right."

By the time you go on to more advanced pieces, you'll be able to tell if your notes and timing are right, even without ever having heard the songs before. Sooner than you might think possible, you'll be able to play different kinds of music: ballads, old favorites, show tunes, or hymns.

## Convenient and Economical

You learn in your spare time, in the privacy and convenience of your own home.

There's no one standing over you to make you nervous. And because you teach yourself, you set your own pace.

And you'll be delighted to discover how economical it is. The cost comes to less than you'd have to pay a private teacher.

## There Are So Many Rewards

How effective are the lessons? Ask Jeffrey Livingston of York, Pa. "I thought the organ course was excellent," he writes. "I knew almost nothing about playing an instrument before I enrolled. Now I can play not only the organ, but the piano too. My new music ability has enabled me to play at churches and small conventions. I am even considering making music my career."

And, Cecelia Feeney of Vineland, N.J. reports: "It's like a dream come true. Knowing how to play the piano and read music has given me new self-confidence."

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If you'd like to learn more about this convenient, pleasant way to teach yourself music, send for our free booklet. With it, we'll include a free "Note-Finder" for guitar or piano.

There's no obligation. Just mail the coupon today to U.S. SCHOOL OF MUSIC. A Home Study School Since 1898.



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City \_\_\_\_\_

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America's Oldest Home Study Music School 4

# OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS

## WORLD WIDE WRESTLING FEDERATION

CHAMPION: SUPERSTAR GRAHAM

- 1—BRUNO SAMMARTINO
- 2—IVAN PUTSKI
- 3—BOB BACKLUND
- 4—KEN PATERA
- 5—CHIEF STRONGBOW
- 6—LARRY ZBYSZKO
- 7—BARON VON RASCHKE
- 8—GEORGE STEELE
- 9—CARLOS ROCHA
- 10—GORILLA MONSOON

## AMERICAN WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

CHAMPION: NICK BOCKWINKLE

- 1—RAY STEVENS
- 2—VERNE GAGNE
- 3—PEDRO MORALES
- 4—CRUSHER
- 5—GREG GAGNE
- 6—JIM BRUNZELL
- 7—SUPER DESTROYER
- 8—ANGELO MOSCA
- 9—LARRY HENNIG
- 10—MAD DOG VACHON

## MOST POPULAR

- 1—ANDRE THE GIANT
- 2—IVAN PUTSKI
- 3—DUSTY RHODES
- 4—BRUNO SAMMARTINO
- 5—BOB BACKLUND
- 6—CHIEF STRONGBOW
- 7—MIL MASCARAS
- 8—JACK BRISCO
- 9—MR. WRESTLING II
- 10—MIGHTY IGOR

## NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE

CHAMPION: HARLEY RACE

- 1—JACK BRISCO
- 2—DUSTY RHODES
- 3—TERRY FUNK
- 4—PAUL JONES
- 5—MR. WRESTLING II
- 6—DORY FUNK JR.
- 7—BLACKJACK MULLIGAN
- 8—THE SHEIK
- 9—RIC FLAIR
- 10—CHAVO GUERRERO

## TAG TEAMS

- 1—BOBBY DUNCUM & BLACKJACK LANZA
- 2—RIC FLAIR & GREG VALENTINE
- 3—CHIEF STRONGBOW & BILLY WHITE WOLF
- 4—JACK & JERRY BRISCO
- 5—THE ANDERSON BROTHERS
- 6—JOSE LOTHARIO & CIEN CARAS
- 7—THE VALIANT BROTHERS
- 8—GOLIATH & BLACK GORDMAN
- 9—CHAVO GUERRERO & VICTOR RIVERA
- 10—PHIL HICKERSON & DENNIS CONDRIY

## MOST HATED

- 1—OX BAKER
- 2—THE SHEIK
- 3—ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER
- 4—SUPERSTAR GRAHAM
- 5—BRUISER BRODIE
- 6—KEN PATERA
- 7—RIC FLAIR
- 8—GEROGE STEELE
- 9—NICK BOCKWINKLE
- 10—BARON VON RASCHKE



SUPERSTAR GRAHAM



NICK BOCKWINKLE



HARLEY RACE



ANDRE THE GIANT



When Your **WORST NIGHTMARE** Becomes **REAL**  
And Suddenly You Are Face-To-Face With A **MUGGER...**

# YOU DON'T NEED A GUN!

**NO SELF-DEFENSE DEVICE THAT  
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**STRIKE DOWN ANY  
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OF SIZE OR STRENGTH  
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When **MUGGERS** ATTACK, you're **SAFE**—behind A **FIGHTING "WALL" of SOLID STEEL!** The most **DRAMATIC BREAKTHROUGH** in **TRUE EFFECTIVE SELF-DEFENSE** in 100 YEARS! **NOTHING** is like it for **SURE PROTECTION** against **MUGGERS, RAPISTS and MANIACS!** "KIYOGA—The Steel Cobra"™ is **INVISIBLE**—until you **DESPERATELY NEED IT!** Then, **QUICKER** than the eye can follow, it **TRANSFORMS** into an **IMPENETRABLE SHIELD of SOLID STEEL!** If they come at you with a **KNIFE, a LEAD PIPE** or other **DEADLY WEAPON**, instead of being a **HELPLESS VICTIM**, you send off your attacker **HOWLING** with **UNBEARABLE PAIN**, or **KNOCK HIM SENSELESS**—**AT WILL!** Yet for all of it's **INCREDIBLE POWER**, "KIYOGA—The Steel Cobra"™ is **NON-LETHAL** and absolutely **FOOLPROOF!**

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IT'S ALMOST TOO GOOD  
TO BE TRUE!**

Do not confuse "KIYOGA—The Steel Cobra"™ with any self-protection device or weapon you have ever seen, read or heard about **BECAUSE IT'S A NEW INVENTION!** In action, "KIYOGA—The Steel Cobra"™ is **SO EFFEC-**

**TIVE**, it has been granted United States **PATENT No. 3,554,546**, one of the **MOST VALUABLE PATENTS** of it's kind **EVER Officially Issued** by the **GOVERNMENT Of The UNITED STATES!**



**A THUNDERBOLT  
OF LIFESAVING POWER  
AT YOUR COMMAND**

"Kiyoga—The Steel Cobra"™ is AN **AUTOMATIC, MAGNETICALLY-TRIGGERED STEEL WHIP** that is armed with a heavy caliber **STRIKING TIP!** When every second **COUNTS**, this **INSTANT ACTION** feature **FREES YOU** from the need to first locate a pushbutton trigger in order to fire it at your attacker!

Because it "goes off" by human **REFLEX-ACTION ALONE**, it **ALWAYS WORKS** when needed! Only **7 1/4"** when closed it is completely **HIDDEN** by your hand! No one can know that **YOU ARE SECRETLY ARMED TO THE TEETH!** If you come **UNDER ATTACK** the high-tension steel-coils **INSTANTLY LASH OUT** in a surprise **COUNTER-ATTACK!** Firing from its nesting place inside the barrel, a **FULL 17"** of **TEMPERED STEEL STRIKES**

**DOWN YOUR ASSAILANT** with the **FORCE** of a **DEADLY COBRA!** Mere **FLESH AND BLOOD** cannot **STAND-UP** to the **EXCRUCIATING PAIN** that follows no matter **WHERE** the steel coils make contact—even through a **LEATHER JACKET!** A blow directed at the head or jaw of the attacker can easily **KNOCK HIM OUT COLD!** Best of all, "Kiyoga"™ is **SO EASY** to handle, it can be **SAFELY USED** by either **MEN or WOMEN** of ANY age!

**AMAZING  
NO-RISK  
90-DAY  
FREE  
TRIAL!**

Be one of the **FIRST** to get the **FULL-TIME PROTECTION** of "KIYOGA—The Steel Cobra"™ without risking **one red cent!** Send only **\$19.95** for each "KIYOGA" ordered (we'll pay the postage.) When you receive it, try it out on the trunk of a tree (the bark will splinter and fly with such **FORCE** it can be dangerous, so wear goggles to protect your eyes). If you live in the city, test it on a phone book and count the number of pages **DENTED** right **THROUGH** the cover (you will penetrate 60 pages!) And don't worry about damaging it! "KIYOGA—The Steel Cobra"™ is precision-machined like a fine gun, and so **WELL MADE** it will last a **LIFETIME!** Best of all, it is entirely self-contained and uses **NO** explosives, gas or electricity so you will **NEVER** buy batteries, cartridges, re-loads or anything else—**EVER!** When you curl your fingers around "KIYOGA'S" sure-grip crackle finish and test the "heft" and blazing action at your fingertips, you'll **KNOW** that here **AT LAST** is the **PROTECTOR** that you have always prayed for—for yourself and your loved ones! **UNCONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED** to live up to **EVERY CLAIM** in this ad, you **MUST** be completely satisfied or send it back within **90-days** for a **FULL REFUND**—no questions asked!

## FREE TRIAL COUPON

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I must have the protection only "KIYOGA"™ can give! Please send me "KIYOGA(s)"™ at \$19.95 each. If **AT ANY TIME** during my **90 DAY FREE TRIAL** I decide to return it, you **GUARANTEE** to refund my money immediately!

I enclose \$\_\_\_\_\_ for "KIYOGA"(s)"™.

Paid by: ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Money Order  
☐ C.O.D. (\$5 goodwill deposit required for C.O.D. orders)

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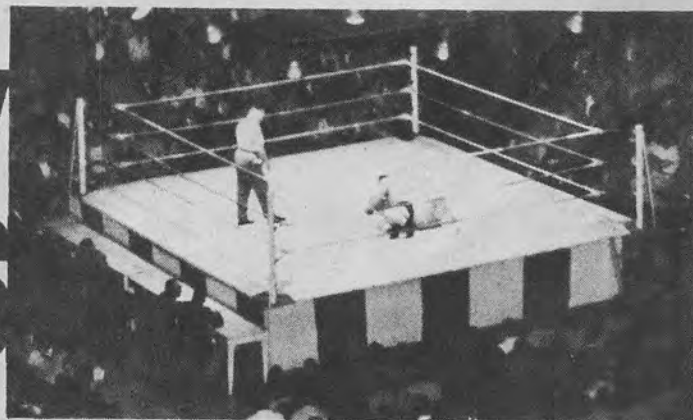
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# SINCERELY YOURS



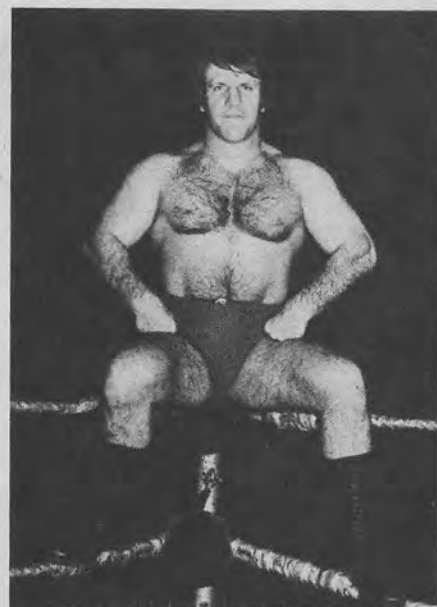
Mil Mascaras is a superb example of human physical development. He is also a magnificent athlete, consummate wrestler, and the first grappler to win the Carruthers Cup, the most venerated award in sport.

## MIL IS THE MAN

I was overjoyed to see that a wrestler has finally won the prestigious Carruthers Cup (Summer 1977). And I was even happier when that wrestler turned out to be my favorite, Mil Mascaras. Just one look at Mil's physique could prove to anyone what a superb athlete the man is. He

obviously lifts weights and exercises regularly to keep his body in such great shape. Wrestling is the number one sport and Mil Mascaras has done the sport proud by winning the Cup. Congratulations Mil—you really deserve it!

MIKE GARCIA  
Los Angeles, Calif.



Does Bruno Sammartino deserve the Carruthers Cup? One reader writes to tell us, "Yes!"

## THE WRONG CHOICE?

If any wrestler should have won the Carruthers Cup it is Bruno Sammartino. Sure, Mascaras is good, but he is no Sammartino. His record does not approach the record of the great Bruno. Mil Mascaras can defeat many men. Bruno can defeat everyone. Whoever voted for Mil should think twice next time and give the Cup to the all-time great, Bruno!

NAT ORTSTEIN  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

## SEEING STARS

Your astrologer predicted that Bockwinkle, Sammartino, and Funk would lose their titles in 1977. As everyone knows by now, he correctly predicted two of three so far—Funk and Sammartino have  
(Continued on page 10)



# UNLIMITED LIFETIME INCOME from RACING

## I CONQUERED HORSERACING AFTER I DISCOVERED THE SUPREME SECRET.....NOW I MAKE ALL THE MONEY I WANT AND LIVE LIKE A KING .....YOU CAN TOO !!!

I can teach you my own private SECRETS that enable me to have everything money can buy. This is not a dream. It is absolute reality. Only the uninformed, lazy-minded and skeptics would hasten to say "it's impossible to beat 'em." Of course IT'S IMPOSSIBLE WITH THE WRONG METHOD. But it's easy if you have the right tools to work with. AND I HAVE THE RIGHT TOOLS FOR YOU! I have what you need and you need what I have for permanent success in racing. And I CHALLENGE ANYONE TO PROVE ME WRONG.

### I Make Every Track My Bank

How do I do it? I know the very secrets of perfect handicapping. This past season I averaged 6 winners daily at each track I played. You can doubt it if you wish, but I still drive a new Cadillac purchased cash; my family lives luxuriously; am never in need of money and don't owe one cent to anyone.

### Stop Using Excuses Now

Turn the odds around by educating yourself in the Art of Handicapping with the RIGHT method. The right method is a Formula based on certain steps, simple yet powerful, linked together like a chain, all unequivocally necessary to produce the outstanding horse in each race. ONLY MY SCIENTIFIC METHOD has this COPY-RIGHTED FORMULA that CANNOT BE DUPLICATED. It has an undefinable ingredient of greatness in a CLASS BY ITSELF!

### First my Own Success and Now Yours

I developed this method years ago with no thought or intention of ever marketing it. For years I enjoyed the luxury of racing. For years my friends at the Turf Clubs saw me accomplish what they believed impossible: COLLECTING RACE AFTER RACE! It reached the point where I had to use secrecy. Others failed -- I succeeded.

### I Offer You The Opportunity To Share The Knowledge of My Success in Racing

which took many years to perfect. For this knowledge I would gladly HAVE PAID THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS had it been available.

### Copy my Success

Unlearn the misleading information handed down over the years. It will not be hard to be convinced once you work with the Formula. It is unique. It is different. It's the ONLY ONE OF ITS KIND AND IT WORKS. You will be ecstatic and grateful that I am sharing this ultimate breakthrough with you.

### I will Send You a FREE BOOKLET

entitled "UNLIMITED LIFETIME INCOME FROM RACING," from both Thoroughbred and Harness. This is my way of helping you in the same way I have helped thousands of horseplayers over the past 15 years. But my greatest thrill and achievement is still beating them every single day. The most thrilling conquest is KNOWING the WINNER IN ADVANCE. And while the crowds spout their philosophies and discuss "hot tips" ("hot tips" my foot) I listen amused. And those geniuses, as usual, drop their tickets to the ground, WHILE I GO ON COLLECTING RACE AFTER RACE! This is not a fairy tale, friends, I do it every day -- and you can too!

### Learn the Best Handicapping

This information is so desperately needed today by so many. Don't deprive yourself of this Wonder of the Turf World. It will help make your KNOWLEDGE OF RACING COMPLETE and PREVENT FURTHER

LOSSES! This knowledge is given unselfishly so race fans may avoid the pitfalls and heart-breaking experiences encountered by me in my early years of racing.

### My Files Are Bulging with Letters Like These

"I was astounded, in 200 races I got 182 winners." B.R., Canada

"I recently purchased your Cal-Q-Meter and previously your Rate-O-Matic. I have never had a losing day with either one." W.H., Ca.

"It is by far the best friend a race player ever had. The PACE INDICATOR is superb." R.W., Ill.

"I've had more Daily Doubles and Exactas and winners than one could imagine...has done so good for me that it paid for my vacation to Puerto Rico and St. Thomas." P.B., Nutley, N.J.

"This is without any doubt the best I have ever seen since about 1930 and...I've collected them all -- about 100 systems." P.M., Ma.

"I'm still on cloud 9, Robert, I can't thank you enough for letting me purchase your amazing Cal-Q-Meter and Pace Indicator. If there is anything I can do for you please don't hesitate to call on me. God bless you." R.B., New York

"I have come away from the track with that winner's smile on my face. It surely is the greatest and best invention. And if there was a Hall of Fame for system inventors I certainly would recommend you. Sincerely," R.O., Ca.

"It's truly the work of a great genius...the conceptualization necessary to produce such a device as yours classes you with such as Max Planck, Albert Einstein, and Ernst Cassirer. Truly a giant and honest and great man." R.K., Ca.

"Played the horses for over 20 years and consider myself an excellent handicapper...but your Cal-Q-Meter is by far the best." J.S., Oakland, Calif.

by ROBERT ELIAS

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"The PACE INDICATOR is the work of a genius." R.F., Ohio

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"Is by far the best thing I have ever in my 30 years of horseracing...I use it with variations of my own with more success than I ever thought would come to me." R.D., Seattle, Wash.

"God bless you and send me another Cal-Q-Meter. I want to put one in the safe-deposit box. Thank you." M.N., Calif.

"Without it I don't know how a person could possibly win in racing. Thank a million." R.B., Ca.

"God bless you Robert for a better life and a new tomorrow. What racing fan could ask for more." H.M., New Jersey

"I don't know how you ever came up with something this good, but I'll give you credit...you've created an aid that when used correctly will enable me to profit from the races. There is at least one person in this world who is offering a handicapping aid that really works." R.D., Calif.

"I have been averaging 4 to 5 winners daily." B.W., Ill.

"Your system seems near genius and it's very decent of you to share your knowledge with struggling horseplayers...." J.N., N.Y.

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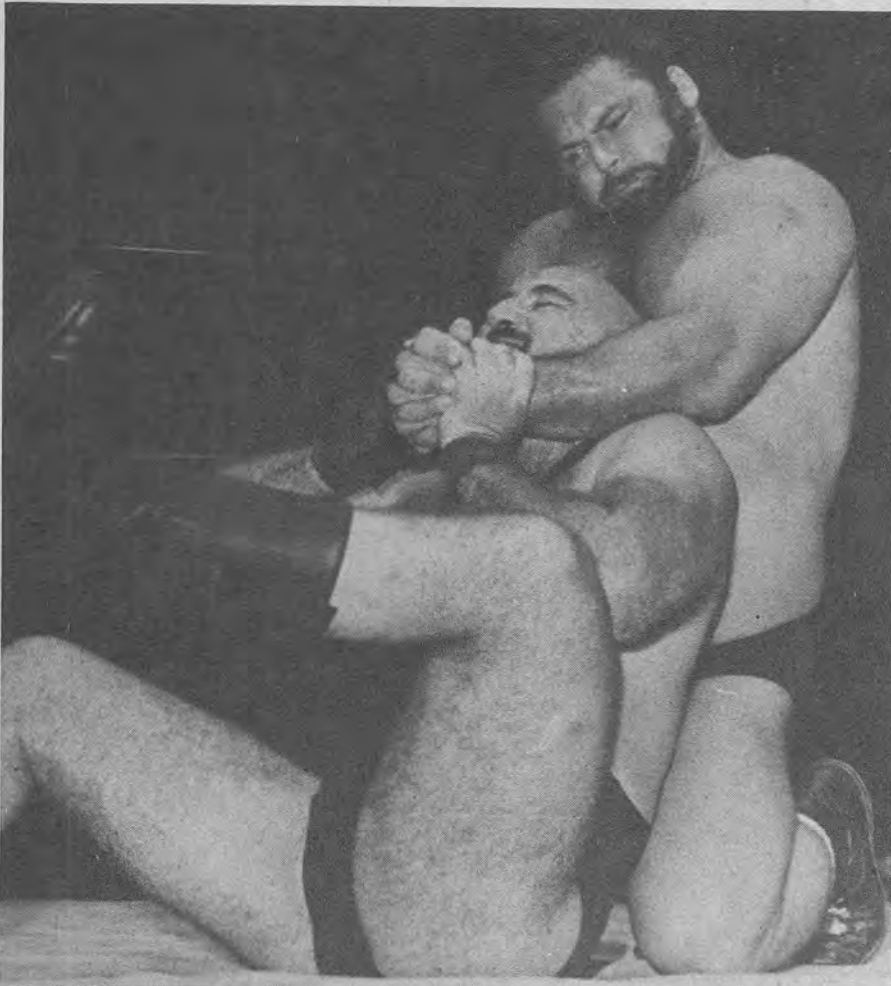
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## SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from Page 8)



Above: Ivan Putski battles Siegfried Stanke in the NWA, one of the two wrestling federations in which Ivan constantly wrestles. One reader says Ivan must do what the promoters want and keep silent about it. Below: Kenji Shibuya is shown at his most revealing moment.

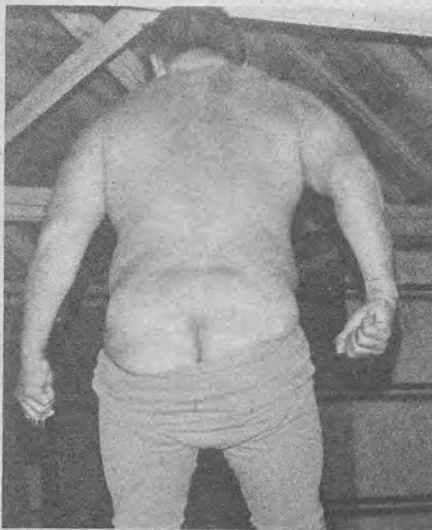
been dethroned. And now I am convinced Bockwinkle will fall this year. Let me take this time to say how great astrologer Nessim Durrell is. I will always believe what he predicts.

FRAN JOSHUA  
Huntington, N.Y.

### IT'S ALL BEHIND HIM

I never laughed so hard as I did after seeing the photography of Kenji Shibuya's posterior in "All Shibuya's Problems Are Behind Him" (Summer 1977). The story and photographs were just superb. Let's see more humorous incidents like this in the future. After all, they happen daily in professional wrestling.

MARK DEEMERS  
Chicago, Ill.



### PUTSKI POWER

I can understand why Ivan Putski refused to wrestle Bruiser Brodie (Summer 1977). Putski did defeat Brodie several times and the



Nick Bockwinkle is getting the upper hand against Jim Brunzell (above), but his future may be bleak, according to our astrologer.

victories got him absolutely nowhere. Ivan needs fresh competition like every other wrestler. Wrestling the same man over and over again can become a drag. Ivan, you should have stuck by your guns and not entered the ring against Brodie!

TOMMY GORDENKO  
Baltimore, Md.

### POLISH PRIDE

Ivan Putski should wrestle whoever the federation wants him to. Pride may force him in another direction, but if they want him to go against Bruiser Brodie a 1,000 times he should do it, and keep his mouth shut! Ivan, the complete professional obeys what the people at the top want him to do!

STEVE TOPKES  
Hicksville, N.Y.

### TERRIFIC TOURNEY

It was a great idea, letting us pick the men who should be in the "Best Wrestler Tournament." I bought three copies of the magazine so my brother and sister could also choose their favorites. Mine were Mil Mascaras, Bruno, Dusty Rhodes, Ivan Putski and Andre the Giant. I hope all of them get into the tournament.

RALPH JACOBELLIS  
Toronto, Ont.  
(Continued on page 48)



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My pupil Franco Columbu, Mr. Universe winner, is muscling up with my Power-X why not you!

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# HAPPY BIRTHDAY...



PHOTOS BY TONY LANZA



**Pierre Lefebvre has a marvelous sense of humor. Ask anyone—except Chief War Eagle!**

*When a group of wrestlers give Pierre Lefebvre a surprise birthday cake (left), they are not expecting to be involved in a cake throwing contest (below left)! However, one shouldn't underestimate Pierre's wacky sense of the wildly ridiculous.*

**T**HE ARENA LIGHTS went out, making it black as night in a forest. In one corner, however, the small flames of birthday candles illuminated a large cake. A group of wrestlers then paraded down the aisle singing "Happy Birthday" to Pierre Lefebvre.

It was Pierre's 21st birthday. Stunned by the surprise, he just stood there with a silly smile on his face as the lights were once again turned on. The crowd cheered this ceremony for the popular young mat star as his friends approached him.

The young grappler warmly shook hands with his friends as they entered the ring. Pierre became giddy with the adulation. And when that glint gets in the young grappler's eye, a practical joke can't be far off.

The photographers asked the wrestlers to pose together and all oblige. Gazing at the cameras, no one saw Pierre dip his hands into the cake and come up with a sticky glob of whipped cream, cake, and jelly filling. The first one to realize this wasn't going to be a quiet party was Chief War Eagle.

*(Continued on page 58)*

# WHAM!



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Dundee her favorite.  
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Likes good guys.  
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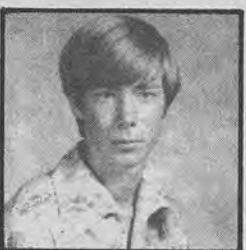
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General Delivery  
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Armstrong her favorite.  
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Boys for pen pals.



**MERV ADAMSON (11)**  
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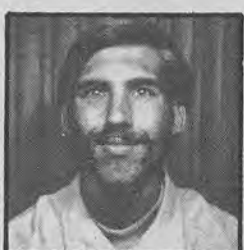
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Rhodes his favorite.  
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Manning, SC 29102  
Likes to swim. Wahoo  
McDaniel his favorite.  
Likes good guys. Girls  
for pen pals.



**LINDA BOWMAN (15)**  
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Dunlap, TN 37327  
Enjoys football. Tommy  
Rich her favorite. Likes  
good guys. Boys for PP's.



**DOUGLAS SMITH (23)**  
1031 Steele Blvd.  
Baldwin, NY 11510  
Enjoys drawing. Bruno  
Sammartino his favorite.  
Likes good and bad guys.  
Girls for pen pals.



**FRANCIS RUZBARSKY (10)**  
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Valley Stream, NY 11580  
Enjoys boxing. Ivan  
Putski his favorite.  
Likes good and bad  
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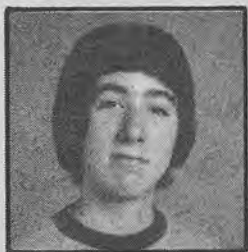
**MANUEL CALDERON (13)**  
51368 W. Nees Avenue  
Firebaugh, CA 93622  
Likes football. Mil  
Mascaras his favorite.  
Likes good guys. Boys  
for pen pals.



**ROBERT GOTTUS (26)**  
4406 Main Street  
Munhall, PA 15120  
Likes dogs. Susan Green  
his favorite. Likes good  
guys. Anyone for PP's.



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Sammartino his favorite.  
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Girls for pen pals.



**RANDY WEIDNER (13)**  
10 Conrad Avenue  
Collingswood, NJ 08108  
Likes sports. Bruno  
Sammartino his favorite.  
Likes good guys.  
Anyone for pen pals.



**EDWARD WELLWOOD (23)**  
489 W. 23 Street  
Holland, MI 49423  
Likes to swim. Mil  
Mascaras his favorite.  
Likes good guys.  
Anyone for pen pals.



**KEN HEATH (14)**  
Box 17 Main St.  
Monterey, MA 01245  
Lifts weights. Ivan  
Putski his favorite.  
Likes good guys.  
Anyone for pen pals.



**MICHAEL STROMBERG (18)**  
3230 Folsom  
San Francisco, CA 94110  
Likes bowling. Pat  
Patterson his favorite.  
Likes good guys. Girls  
for pen pals.



**MARY WILLIAMS (39)**  
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Collects pictures. Chief  
Strongbow her favorite.  
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**BRENDA KEISER (18)**  
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Brisco his favorite. Likes  
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Daly City, CA 94014  
Likes baseball. Pat  
Patterson his favorite.  
Likes good and bad guys.  
Anyone for pen pals.



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Flair his favorite.  
Likes bad guys.  
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**WENDY REYES (11)**  
317 Brinsmade Ave.  
Bronx, NY 10465  
Likes ice skating. Ivan  
Putski her favorite. Likes  
good guys. Anyone for  
pen pals.



**MASAHIRO SUDA (18)**  
11-8 Okura-cho  
Kadoma-city, Osaka-fu  
JAPAN 571  
Likes baseball. Antonio  
Inoki his favorite. Likes good  
and bad guys. Anyone for PP's.



**LYNN STONE (10)**  
14011 Manhattan  
Oak Park, MI 48237  
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Strongbow her favorite.  
Likes good guys.  
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Orlando, FL 32806  
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Mascaras his favorite.  
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Collects shells. Bob  
Backlund her favorite.  
Likes good guys.  
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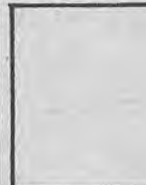
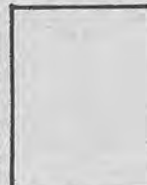
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# AN EXPERT ANALYZES THE STARS' HANDWRITING

BY RAMONA TABOR



**RAYMOND ROUGEAU**

This is a person who is both enjoying and a bit afraid of his new popularity. The first line of this sample contains fewer letters than subsequent lines, showing the writer to expect recognition at first meeting while being unsure how this fame effects his relationship with other people.

His capital letters are all full and large, showing he does have confidence in himself. However, his "o's" and the loops in his "p's" are small, showing a shyness toward strangers.

This is probably a young person. He or she is enjoying the present while looking to settle down.

**What secrets lie in the handwriting of your favorite stars?**  
**In answer to your requests we've brought back our handwriting analyst to tell you what she's found out about certain wrestlers.**



**CANADIAN WOLFMAN**

This scrawl is unintelligible, showing a complete disregard to communicate. In fact, it could be a total disdain for other people which prompts him to write in this undecipherable way.

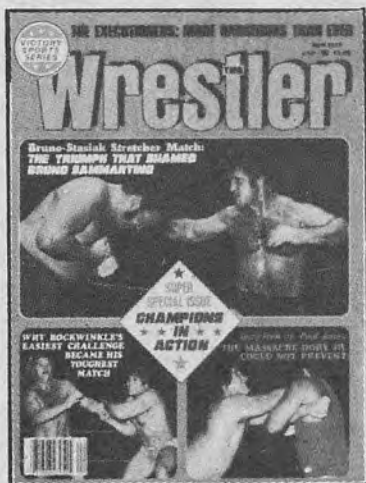
Why he bothers to write at all is a wonder. This writing sample is the written equivalent to grunting!

*(Continued on page 52)*



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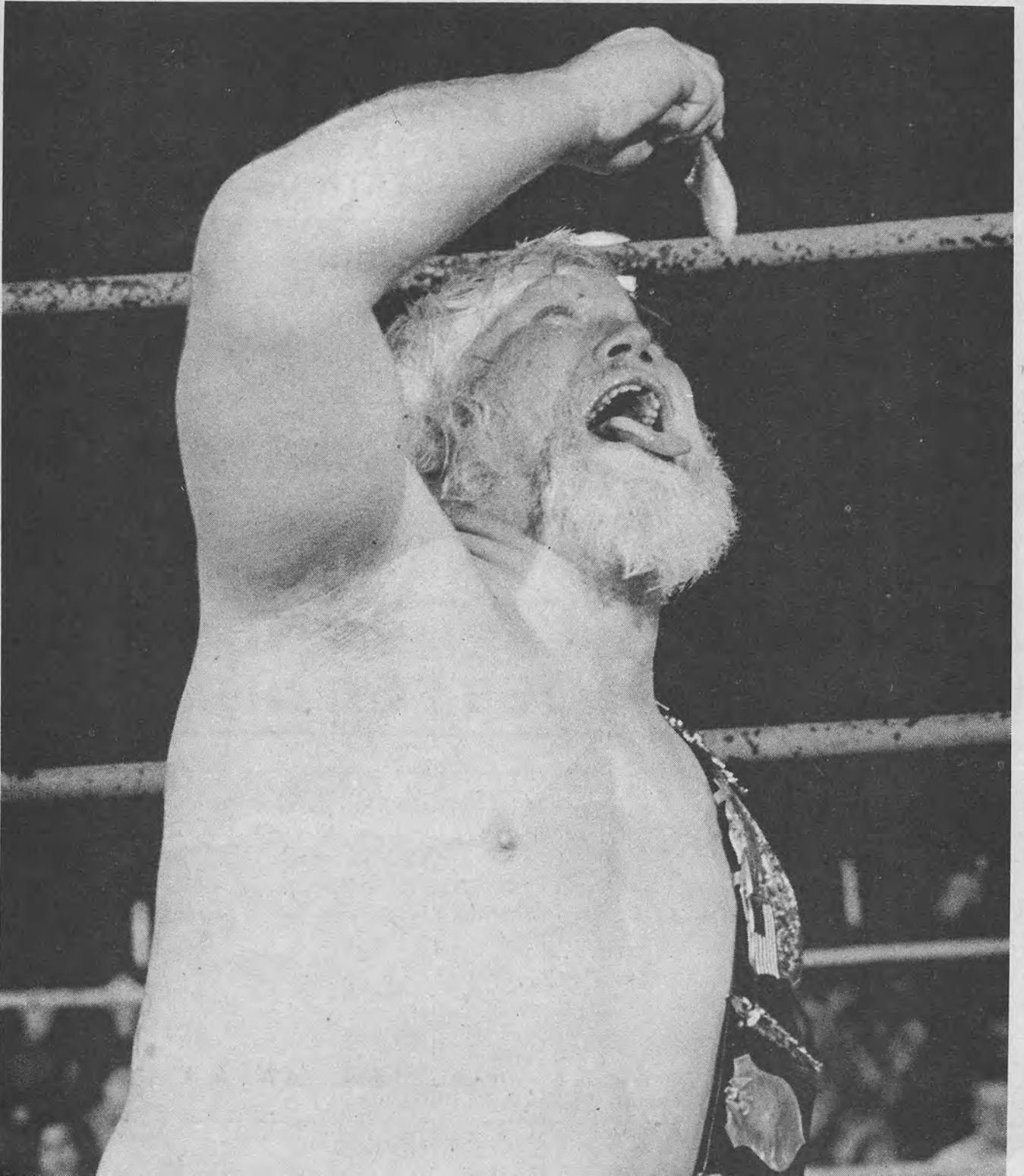
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**EVEN HIS PARTNERS  
THINK MOONDOG  
MAYNE'S INSANE!**





## PHOTOS BY LARRY BARNHIZER

**W**HEN TOLD OF the match, Moondog Mayne's face broke out into a maniacal grin. It froze that way, hideously, for perhaps two seconds. Then the grappler started howling with joy.

Promoter Johnny Miller put down the phone, not caring what Mayne was doing on the other end of the line. He had five other people to call. One by one, he contacted Raul Mata, then midgets Cowboy Lang, the Haiti Kid, Little John, and Billy the Kid. They were all to be the same match!

Mata would be joined by Lang and Haiti Kid. Mayne's teammates were Billy and John. Each trio soon gathered for training. The midget pair teaming with Mayne didn't know what to expect. But even in their wildest dreams, they never imagined what actually did happen!

They walked into the room and found Mayne sitting behind a desk. In front of him were three champagne glasses. Moondog's teeth gleamed like fangs as he smiled. He took up one glass and examined it like a jeweler inspecting a precious stone.

"This glass," he exclaimed, "reminds me of Mata!" He promptly ate it!

Blood dripped from the sides of his mouth as he shouted, "Cowboy Lang!" and ate the second glass, only to be followed by a yelp of "Haiti Kid!" as his teeth crunched into the third glass. His mouth was now a mass of cuts and gushing blood. Mayne then jumped on the desk and started howling in a loud, eerie moan. The midgets fled from the room and decided to hold strategy meetings on their own.

As for the other team, all was going well until Raul said, "As I see it, we've got to isolate Mayne from the other two. He's the real problem we'll have."

Raul could feel the tension instantly flood the room. He looked at his teammates and their faces revealed a combination of anger and hurt. When Lang spoke, he had to restrain himself from shouting.

"The other two men," Lang declared, spitting out "men" to make sure Mata understood, "have all the knowledge Mayne has, perhaps a good deal more, and their speed makes Mayne—and you—appear to be snails. While their strength and weight may be less, they are nonetheless excellent athletes. I and the Haiti Kid don't plan to lose this match because our midget opponents aren't taken seriously."

(Continued on page 54)



*Billy the Kid works over the Haiti Kid as Billy's partners, Little John and Moondog Mayne, look on happily. The two midget 'grapplers' are not quite sure what kind of person their huge partner is, but they're wary—as is everyone else—when Moondog is around.*

**It's not just Moondog Mayne's opponents who think he's nuts. His tag team partners are equally convinced the man is off the wall!**



*Raul Mata whips Mayne across the canvas and into the ringpost. Mata worked well with his midget partners, and the trio functioned fine as a team. Mayne shocked his partners, but they did their thing while Mayne raged alone all through this savage encounter.*

# THE MAN

**Harley Race has infuriated many grapplers over the years. However, no instance was as dangerous as the time he turned Andre the Giant into a madman!**

**PHOTOS BY DON DELEON**

**T**HE COFFEE HAD long since gone cold in the cup. Every so often Andre the Giant would stir it anyway, although by now even he realized it would never be consumed. He seemed fascinated by the swirls caused by the spoons. Actually, Andre was staring at the images of something which had happened hours ago.

Though there must have been at least half a dozen people at the table, no one spoke. It was Andre who would have to break the silence. The gargantuan grappler knew they were all waiting for him to say something, but he didn't feel like talking.

Instead, his massive hands ran lightly over the bandages on his head.

*Left Stunned and shaken, the great Andre the Giant realizes he has almost killed a referee!  
Below: Totally out of control, Andre battles over a chair with Harley Race, who drove him mad!*





# WHO MADE ANDRE GO BERSERK!



*His face betraying his rage, Andre grabs Race by the wrist and hurls him across the mat (left). Race finally leaps on the restraints and challenges his opponent to return to the fray (below). However, Andre then went out after his foe!*

Underneath the gauze were eight stitches. But that wasn't what caused him so much pain.

Everyone present knew what Andre was remembering. They had been there; they had seen it. And they could see it all again in the sorrow of Andre's eyes.

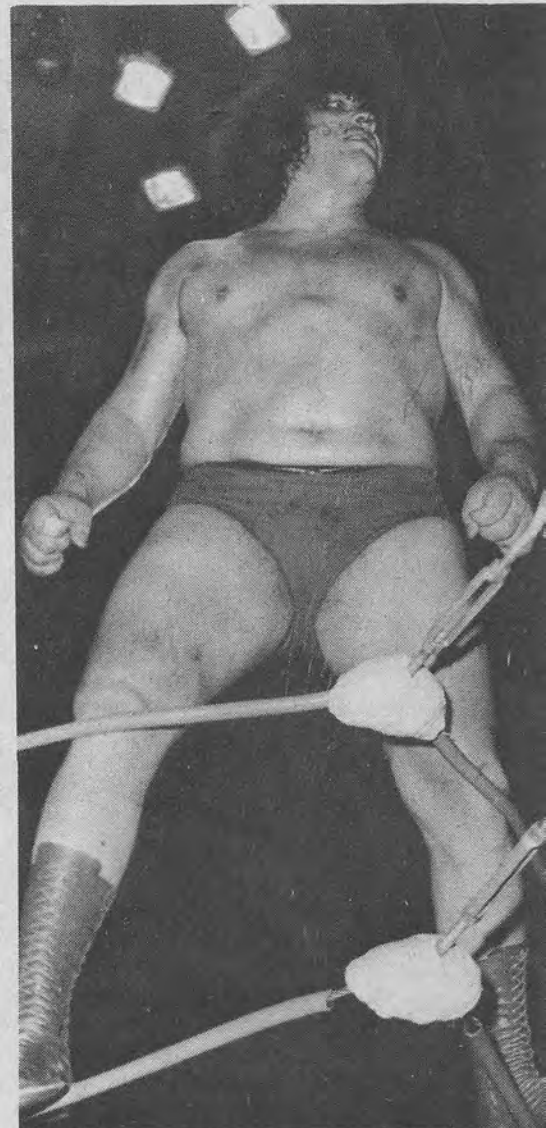
Though neither Harley Race nor the referee was present, their memory hung heavy over the gathering. The referee couldn't be blamed for what had occurred. The hatred felt for Race,

however, was staggering.

For it was Race who was responsible for Andre's stitches. It was Race who drove the international mat star to rampaging fury. And it was against Race that Andre found himself terrifyingly beyond control.

"I'm a professional," Andre muttered "and I should know better. I should."

Those assembled around the table had heard those words earlier that evening. It didn't signify Andre's self-





*Above: Andre lifts Race high into the air. Left: After he is disqualified, Andre screams and threatens the poor referee!*

imposed silence had been broken. It was always followed by even longer stretches of silence.

Andre's mind was occupied with a match which had taken place hours ago. Over and over again, he saw himself and Harley Race brawling outside the ring. And he winced at the recollection of Race climbing back into the ring ahead of him and gaining the victory. And then the memory came into all-too-sharp focus.

By this time in the match Andre was bleeding and rampaging. The pain and anger combined to make him uncaring about any rules or regulations. Going against Harley Race in a brawl often does that to a man.

As the fans booed the decision to award Race the victory, Andre started arguing with the referee. Before anyone knew what happened, th

arguing turned into a shouting attack. The referee backed off quickly as Andre's face contorted into a mask of rage. Eyes bulging, veins on his neck standing out and throbbing, a red flushed face beneath the blood, Andre stalked toward the referee. Seeing this maniacal gargantuan coming toward him ready to kill, the referee tried to get away.

Andre continued after him. His huge hand clamped down on the official's arm, making sure the object of his anger could not get away. The referee tried to wiggle free, but the power in the grip refused to release him. Everyone in the arena held his breath. All wondered what the giant would do with his free hand.

The referee's face revealed his fear. The victim was too scared to reason with Andre and knew any command

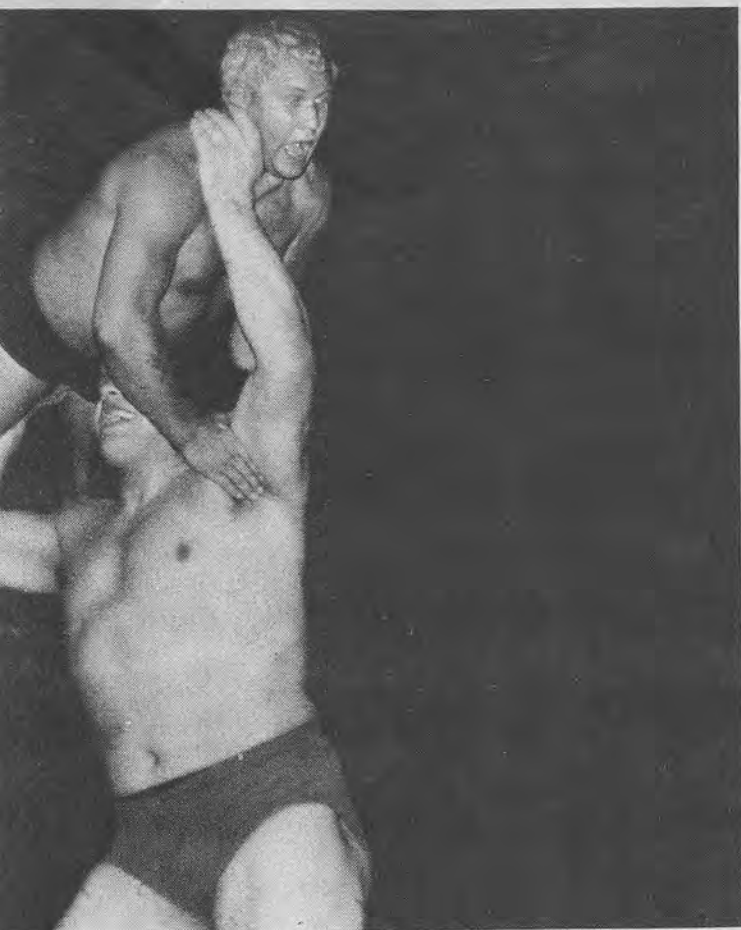
would go unheeded. All that stood between the referee and the worst beating a human being could receive was the slim hope that Andre's rage would give way to reason. Even the special police had not time to step between them.

Andre's free hand clenched in a fist and raised high in the air. It looked like a sledgehammer to the referee. He saw the muscles contract in the arm. He later said his life passed before his eyes. No one doubts him.

For a second, the two men froze in that position. The arena was still. Then Andre's body, which had been at its full height in preparation to strike, relaxed. The muscles sagged; the shoulders dropped; the face lost its hideous look. Andre's decency had prevented him from brutalizing the referee. Just in time.

When the rage passed, Andre started to tremble. As the realization of what he had come within an instant of doing hit him, the grappler couldn't stop shaking. He had company; the referee's teeth could be heard chattering by fans in the third row!





Andre tried to apologize, but was too overwhelmed by the horror of what had transpired to make his feelings understood. And the referee was in no condition to understand. The two men simply walked to their respective dressing rooms in silence. The crowd applauded respectfully as they made their exit.

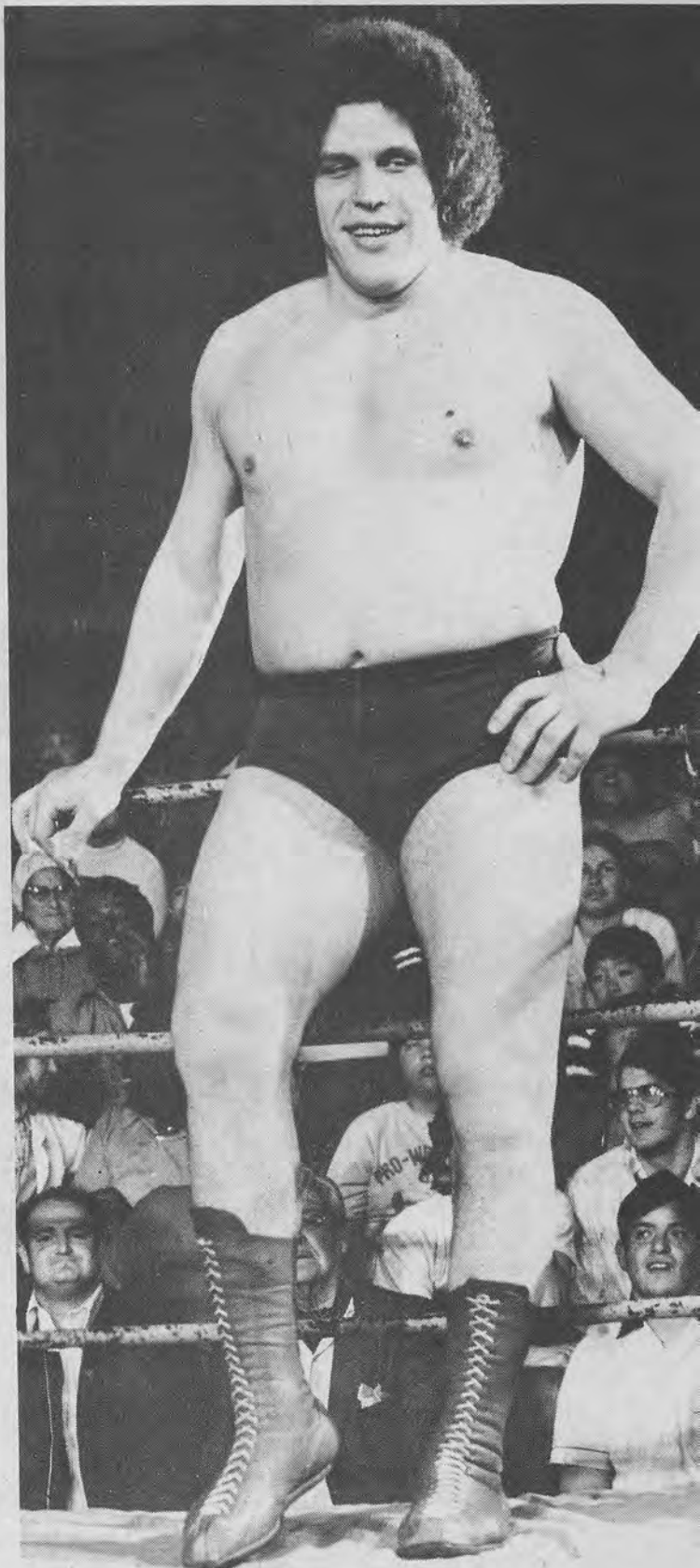
Andre refused to see reporters after the match, promising to see them the next day. He had a lot to sort out for himself before speaking to anyone else.

However, a few of Andre's friends refused to let him be alone. So they accompanied him to the restaurant. Though he didn't say anything to them, all felt better about being there.

So the evening passed into early morning. The waitress regularly replaced the cold coffee with fresh brew, only to take the same full cup away 15 minutes later. Every so often, Andre's friends would start some innocent conversation only to have it die within minutes.

Dawn was breaking over the city when Andre excused himself and left. He walked aimlessly for awhile as the city woke up around him. He barely noticed the streetlights extinguishing or the silence being broken by traffic noise. His solitary walk was soon accompanied by thousands of

*Andre the Giant (right) is sure of victory and himself as he receives the cheers of his fans before the match. Andre had no idea how Harley Race would torment him into losing him temper and drive him to do actions which he had never contemplated executing before this wild and crazy battle!*



strangers.

He walked all day. No matter how far he went, he was never more than a memory away from what had happened the night before. He was learning to live with the memory, however, and what it meant about

himself.

Knowing what he is capable of doing and controlling that may be the hardest thing Andre the Giant will ever have to conquer. And whether or not he can succeed is a question everyone is asking. □



Left: The egocentric Billy Graham glares at the fans before a bout. Above: Graham can be counted on to use certain illegal aids, like a rope, to make his bearhug on Ivan Putski even more agonizing.

# BILLY GRAHAM SPITS IN THE FACE OF THE FANS

**T**HE ABSOLUTE IMPUDENCE of the man is astounding. After what wrestling fans have done for him, he should be grateful. Instead, he has spit in their faces. Of course, there is nothing which can be done now. But what Superstar Billy Graham did was just despicable.

He may think he now has the right to have his own selfish self-interests prevail over those of the entire sport, but that just isn't right. No wrestler should have that kind of power, be he a champion or be he a preliminary wrestler. No man can spit in the face of the fans.

Many months ago, leading

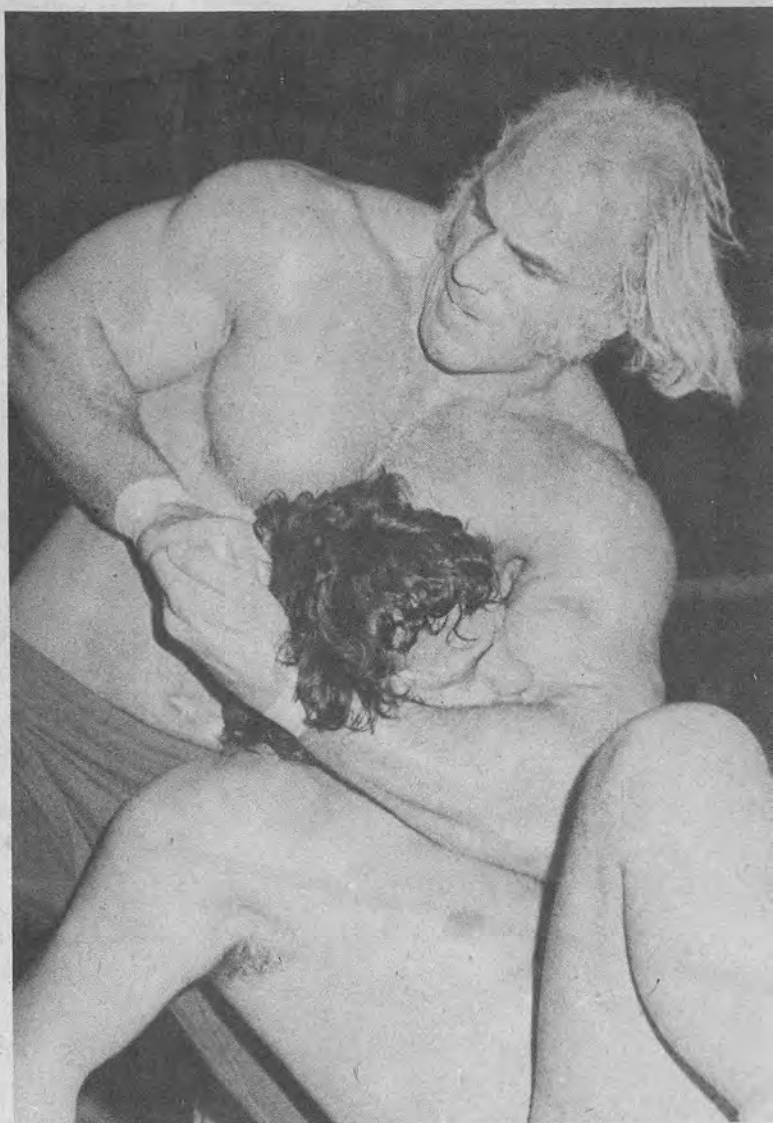
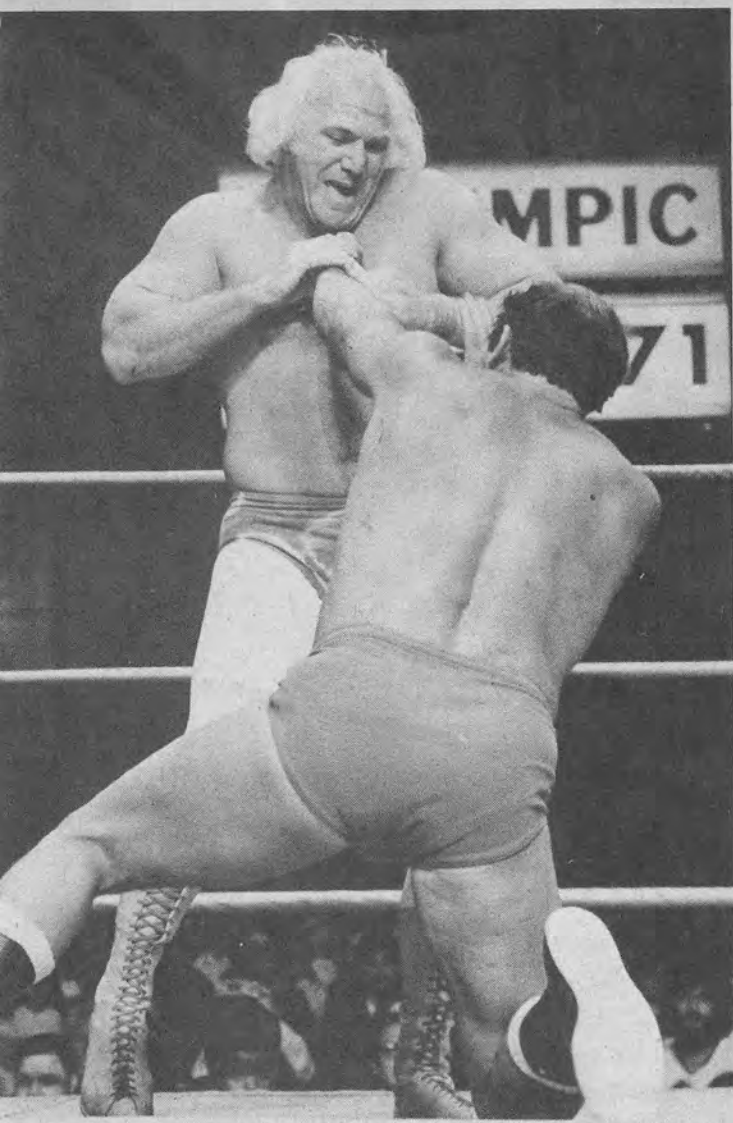
promoters from all over the country decided to finally band together and hold a tournament to decide the one true champion of wrestling. At that time, everyone involved thought it was a very good idea. The petty in-fighting would begin later, but it would not be enough to cause the tournament to fall through. Superstar Graham took care of that.

The promoters turned to **WRESTLING ANNUAL** to select the men who should be involved in the tournament. They asked we poll wrestling fans from around the world to see who they thought should be included. We complied with their

wishes and sponsored a special fan ballot in this magazine (Summer 1977).

We designed our ballot to be the fairest, most equitable measure of who the fans thought were the best wrestlers currently in the sport. All professional wrestlers were eligible for inclusion in the tournament. All told, 100 wrestlers were listed on our special ballot which went out to wrestling fans. Another 77 write-in choices were made by those who sent ballots back. The entire sport was involved in determining who would be in our Best Wrestler Tournament (see related story on page 34).



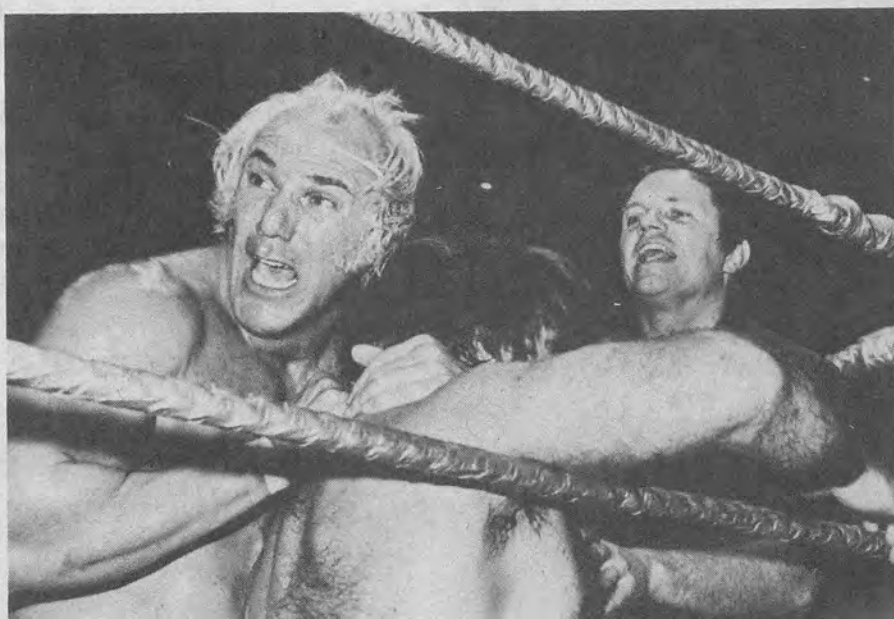


**His word meant nothing to him. The demands of the fans meant even less. Learn why the tournament of tournaments was scuttled by Superstar Billy Graham's treachery and egotism. The fans now know who to blame**

When we finished tabulating the results, Superstar Billy Graham had placed seventh out of all 177 wrestlers nominated. That was a great honor indeed, and any wrestler would have been proud to have ranked so high among the fans. Everyone had been asked to choose five men they thought would be the best competitors for the tourney. It was not an easy choice for anyone to make, especially

*(Continued on page 62)*

Top left: Graham tortures Chris Tolos. Top right: Graham headlocks Billy Robinson. Right: Bruno Sammartino is choked by Graham.



# OUR BEST WRESTLER TOURNAMENT BEGINS



**T**HIS IS IT! For years, wrestling fans have been clamoring for a determination of who is the best wrestler in the world today. Thanks to the marvels of an advanced computer, that determination has been made.

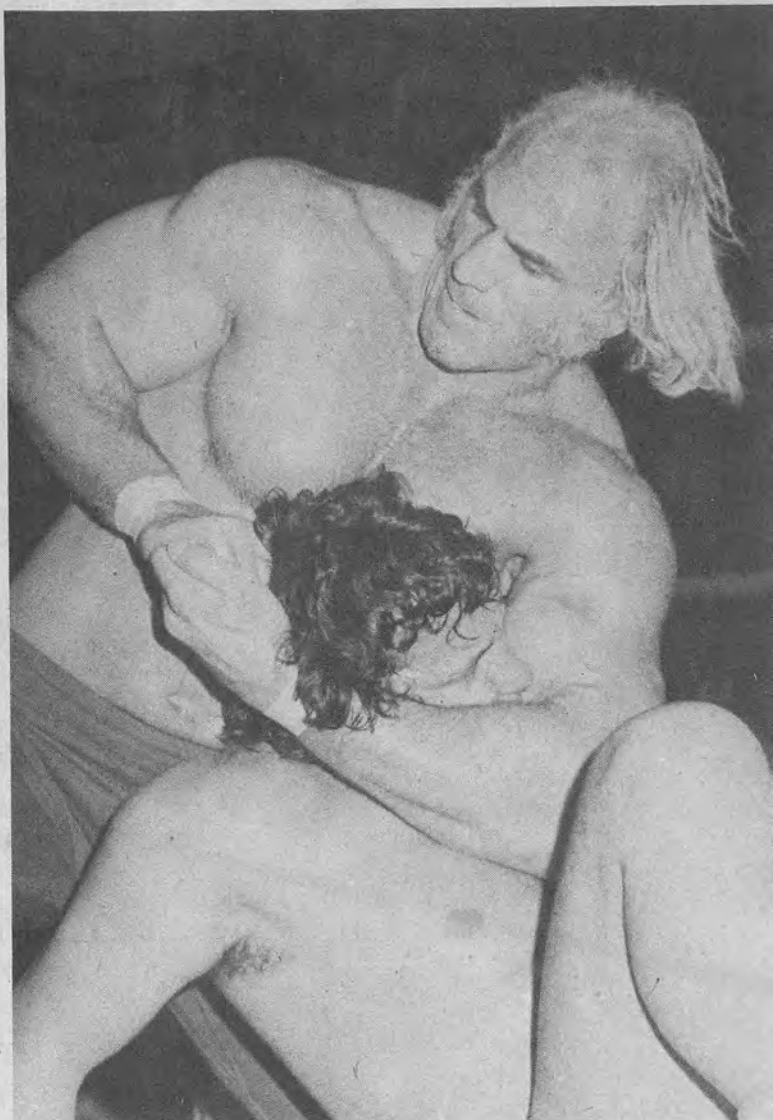
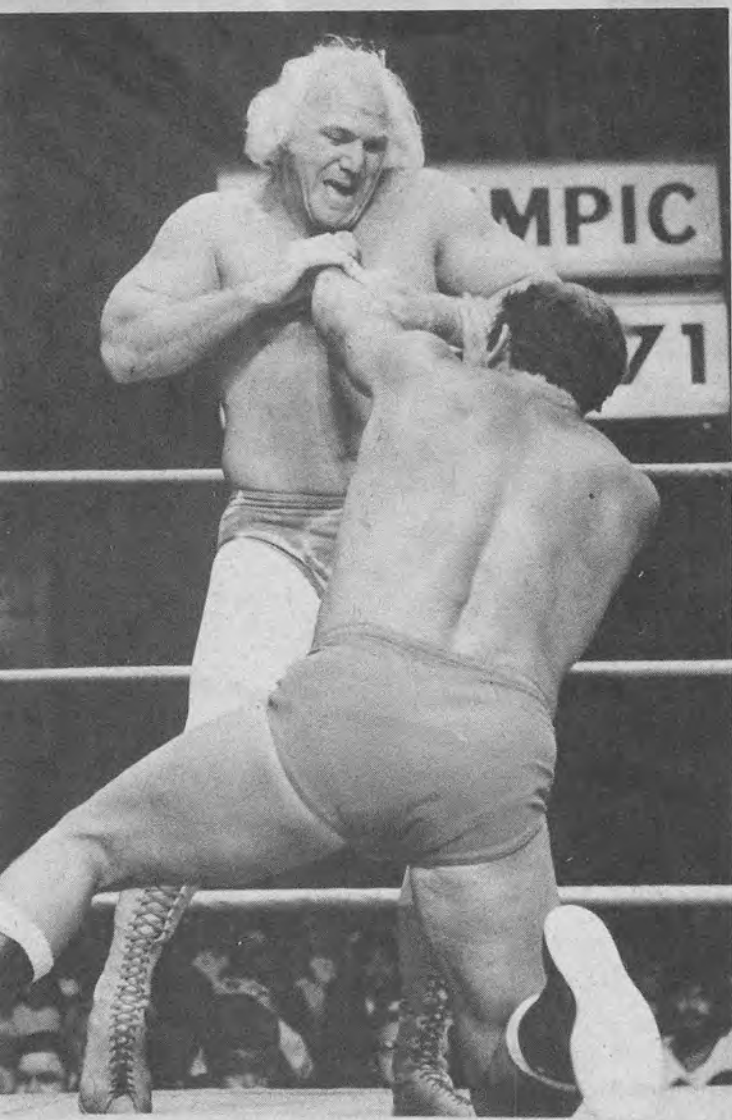
In our Summer 1977 issue, **WRESTLING ANNUAL** announced there would be a tournament to determine who would become wrestling's one world champion. At that time, various promoters across the country had agreed to the idea of having one world champion. They requested that you, the wrestling fans, determine who should be included in that

tournament. At last, it was hoped, the controversy over which wrestler was best would be ended. We shouldn't have been so hopeful.

Little did we realize there would be so many major problems putting together this tournament, which had been designed to unify all of wrestling. But no one had realized Superstar Billy Graham would win the WWWF championship, then refuse to compete in the tourney. When Graham withdrew, the entire event began to fall apart. Many of the original sponsors abandoned the plan, citing the fact that it really couldn't be a Best Wrestler Tournament without the WWWF champion being included. Soon, the entire

**The fans have spoken. Their choices have been made. The 12 top wrestlers have been selected for the tournament to decide who is supreme above all others. Of the 12 men, only one will emerge victorious.**



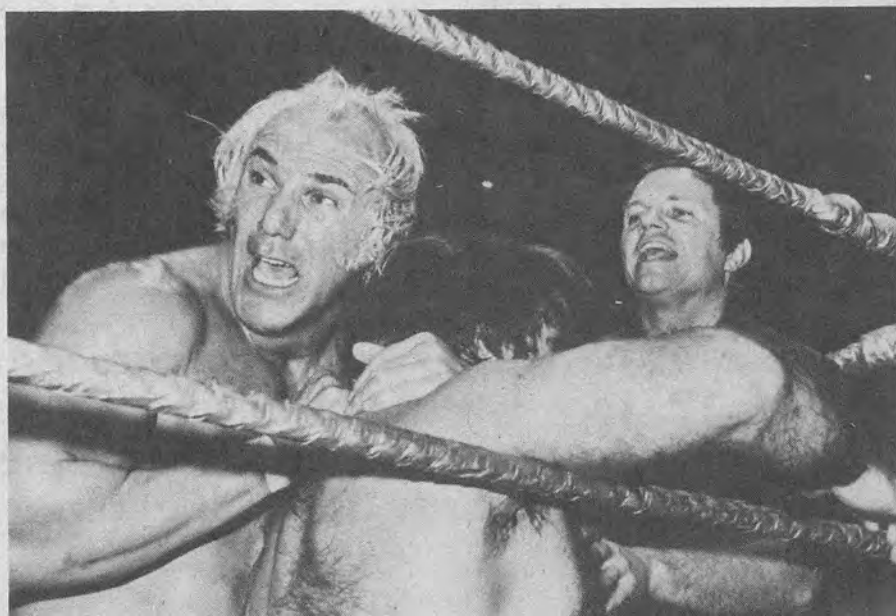


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*(Continued on page 62)*

Top left: Graham tortures Chris Tolos.  
Top right: Graham headlocks Billy Robinson.  
Right: Bruno Sammartino is choked by Graham.



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**The fans have spoken. Their choices have been made. The 12 top wrestlers have been selected for the tournament to decide who is supreme above all others. Of the 12 men, only one will emerge victorious.**





Best Wrestler Tournament was in a shambles. (See related story on page 32).

Fortunately, the editors of this magazine had access to a highly advanced computer. The idea of putting together a computer tournament took root. This way, we could salvage the effort every fan had made in filling out the special ballots, and there could still be a determination of who is the best wrestler. Even when Graham asked he not be included in the computer tourney, everyone felt this was the best way of going about matters. Thus, the Best Wrestler Tournament was scrapped, and the switch was made to a computer tourney. Because Graham had withdrawn from the competition, another wrestler, Ken Patera, was added to the list of participants.

The idea of holding a computer tournament to determine who is the best wrestler in the sport is not a



## RANKING

Name	Votes Received
1. Bruno Sammartino .....	15,128
2. Mil Mascaras .....	13,967
3. Andre the Giant .....	11,860
4. Ivan Putski .....	10,994
5. Dusty Rhodes .....	9,798
6. Chief Jay Strongbow .....	9,181
7. Superstar Billy Graham* .....	8,571
8. Jack Brisco .....	7,863
9. Bob Backlund .....	7,145
10. Mr. Wrestling II .....	7,132
11. Nick Bockwinkel .....	6,549
12. Larry Zbyszko .....	6,173
13. Ken Patera .....	5,970

*\*Dropped out of tournament*

new idea. This magazine has been compiling statistics for just such an event for a long time. When we first heard about the sudden need to hold the electronic event, we quickly finished our research and fed it into the computer.

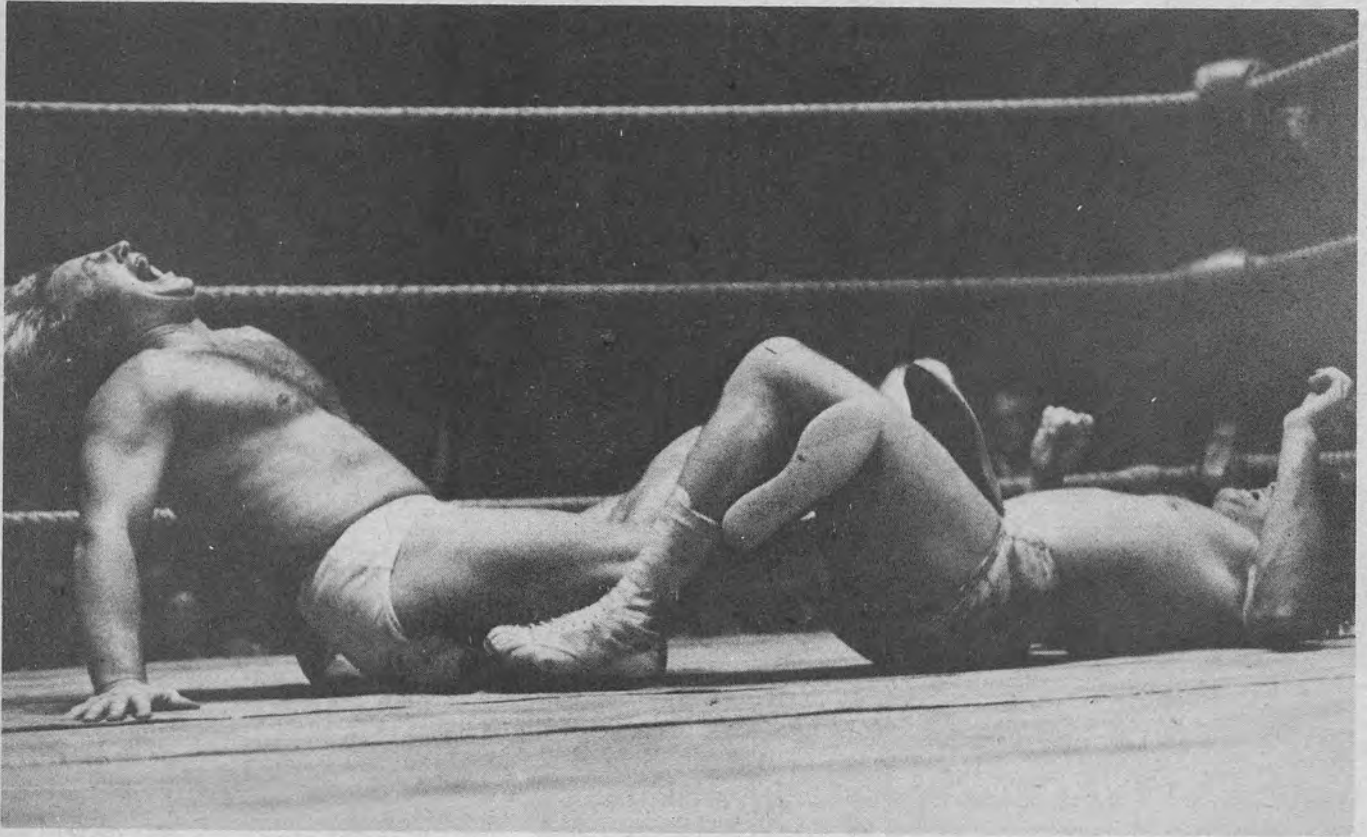
We then contacted all the wrestlers who would be involved in the computer tournament. Most of them praised the idea, especially in light of the demise of the tournament using the actual wrestlers. However, there were a few wrestlers who did

object. We complied with their wishes.

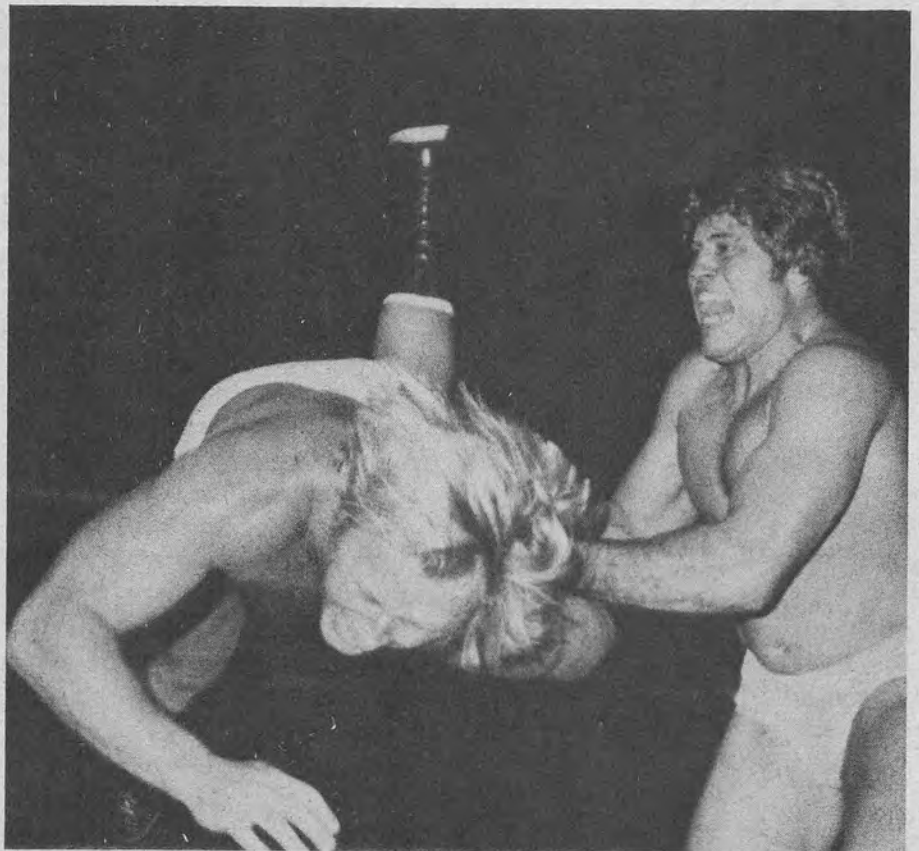
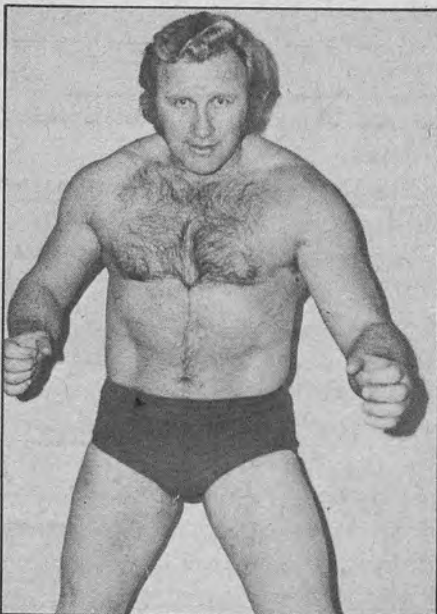
Places in the rankings were determined by your votes. The response to the Best Wrestler Tournament was overwhelming. No other balloting in the history of WRESTLING ANNUAL has ever had such a response. As ballots came in, the results were fed into our computer. The balloting was so close in many cases, the final rankings were not determined until the final day of voting. As soon as the last vote was

*(Continued on page 60)*

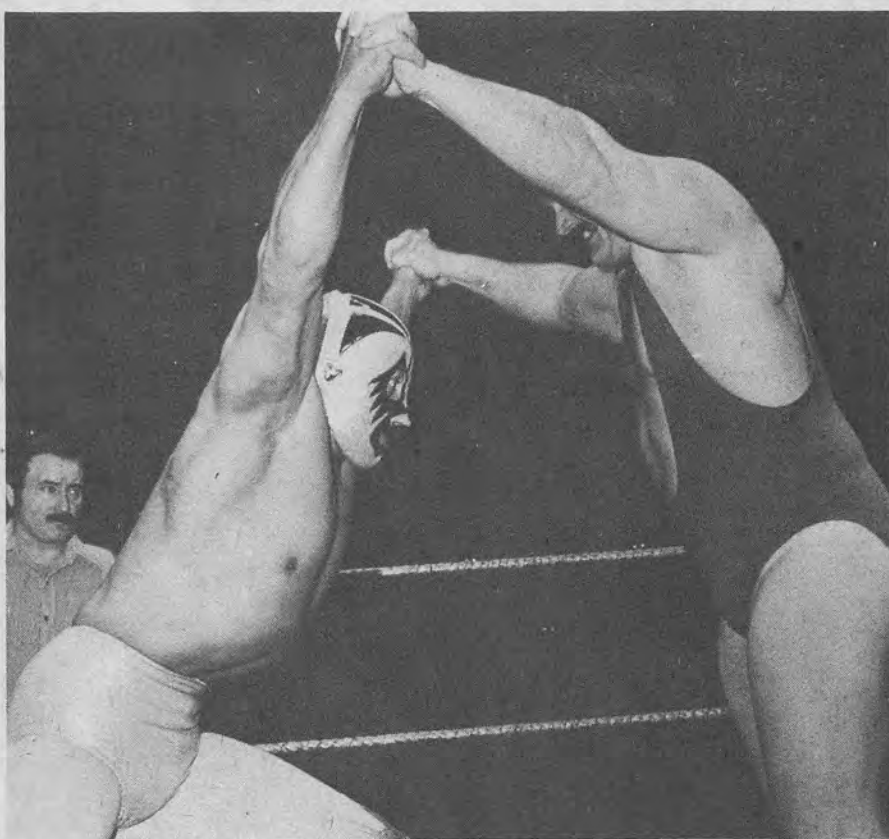
# MIL MASCARAS vs. NICK BOCKWINKLE



Above: Bockwinkel screams as Jim Brunzell snares him in a figure-four leglock. Right: Brunzell sends Nick flying. Below: Bockwinkel exudes confidence before a bout.







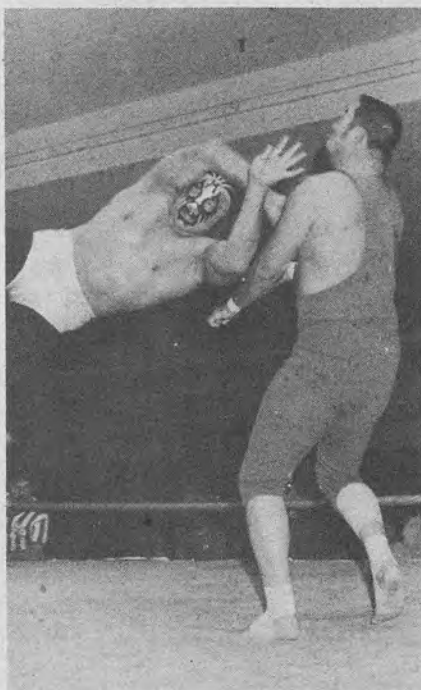
Above: Mascaras bends to gain leverage in a test of strength against Doug Gilbert. Right: Mascaras captures Destroyer in the astounding leg headlock. Above right: Mascaras proudly poses with the Americas belt, one of many honors earned in his great career. Below: Dr. Ota goes sprawling from a Mascaras flying bodyblock.



The two men are standing in opposite corners, just waiting to spring into action. Their two contrasting styles should provide for some very interesting action. Will Mil's famous flying tactics be enough to stop Bockwinkle's roughhouse style?

From the opening moments, it is clear Mascaras will be a difficult target for Bockwinkle. Mil is very quick. Nick needs a little time to get his rhythm. Mascaras circles his opponent, darting back and forth in front of him.

Finally, Bockwinkle lunges at Mascaras and forces the masked wrestler to the canvas. This move surprises Mil, but it does not daze him. He tries to raise himself back up, but Nick refuses to allow this advantage to slip away so easily. Before Mascaras can get to his feet, Bockwinkle puts a leglock on him, thereby keeping Mil on the canvas.

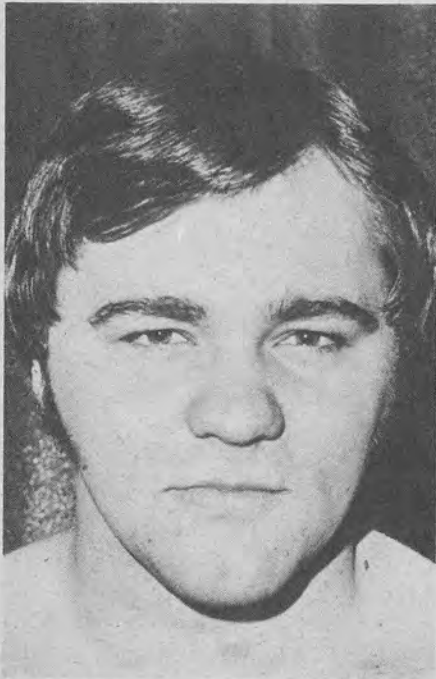


But Mascaras knows how to counter this maneuver. He breaks the hold on Bockwinkle and soon has a headlock on him. For the next few minutes, this type of action prevails, with one man gaining and losing control in a matter of seconds.

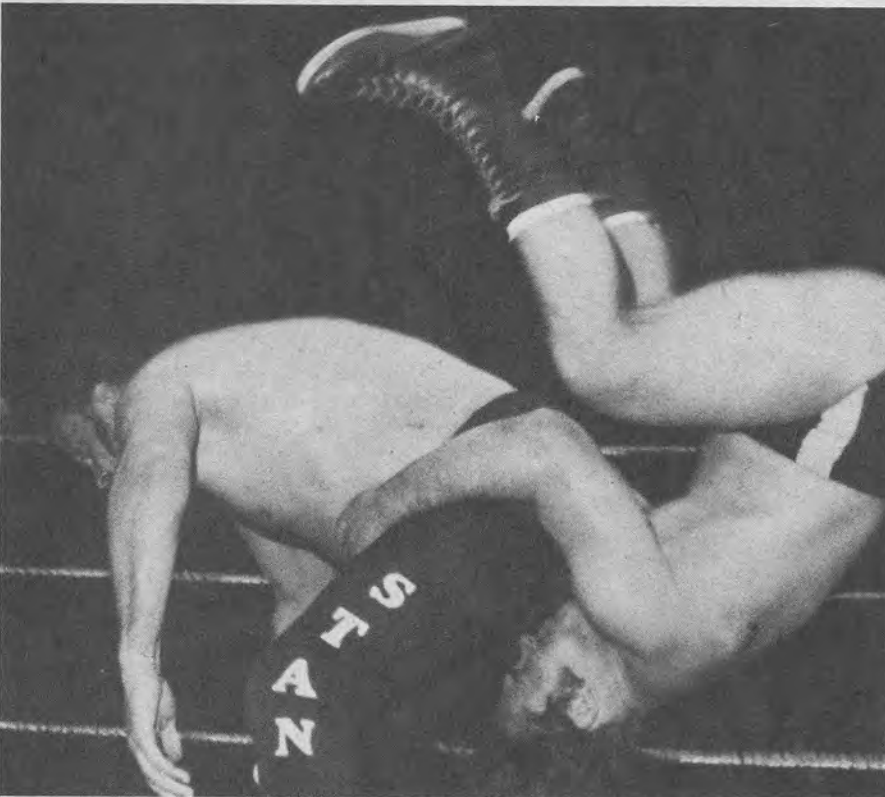
It is up to Mascaras to break this pattern. He breaks free of one of Nick's armlocks and springs upward. His best strategy at this point is his initial strategy: Be elusive. Tire Bockwinkle out. Force him to make a bad mistake. Then use one of Nick's own maneuvers to defeat him.

The plan works well. Bockwinkle begins to tire and Mil senses this. He stops eluding Nick. He dives in, forcing his opponent to the canvas. Bockwinkle is too tired to resist. An astonishingly well-executed figure four leglock does the trick, and Mil wins the elimination match. □

# BRUNO SAMMARTINO vs. LARRY ZBYSZKO



Above: Larry Zbyszko is a serious young man determined to reach the top of his profession. Bruno is one who thinks Larry will succeed. Left: Larry is sent flying by Stan Stasiak's bodyflip. The wrestler still has much to learn.



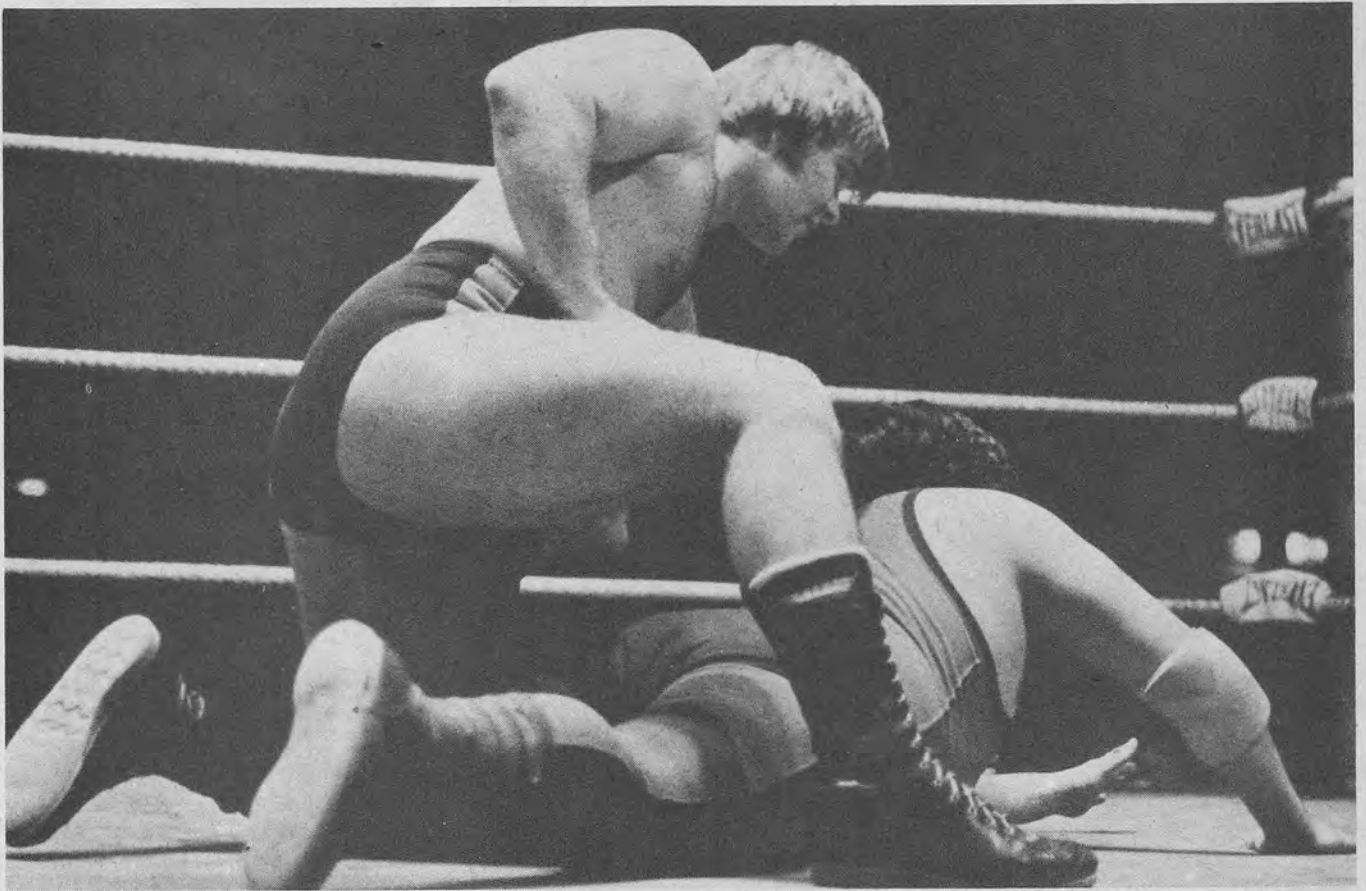
Above: Bruno Sammartino is not only one of wrestling's most accomplished grapplers; he is also a gentleman. He voluntarily disqualified himself from this tournament rather than be pitted against Larry Zbyszko.

*(Editor's note: Before the computer could analyze the results of a match between these two men, Bruno Sammartino requested his name be dropped from the tournament in favor of Larry Zbyszko. What follows is an excerpt from a letter Bruno sent WRESTLING ANNUAL explaining why he took this action.)*

"When I first met Larry Zbyszko, he was just a teenager who didn't look like he had too much going for him. But I could see the potential was there. Some day, this young man would make a great champion. I knew it. And I wanted to help him as much as I could.

"He has proven himself over the years. He was a good student, and he





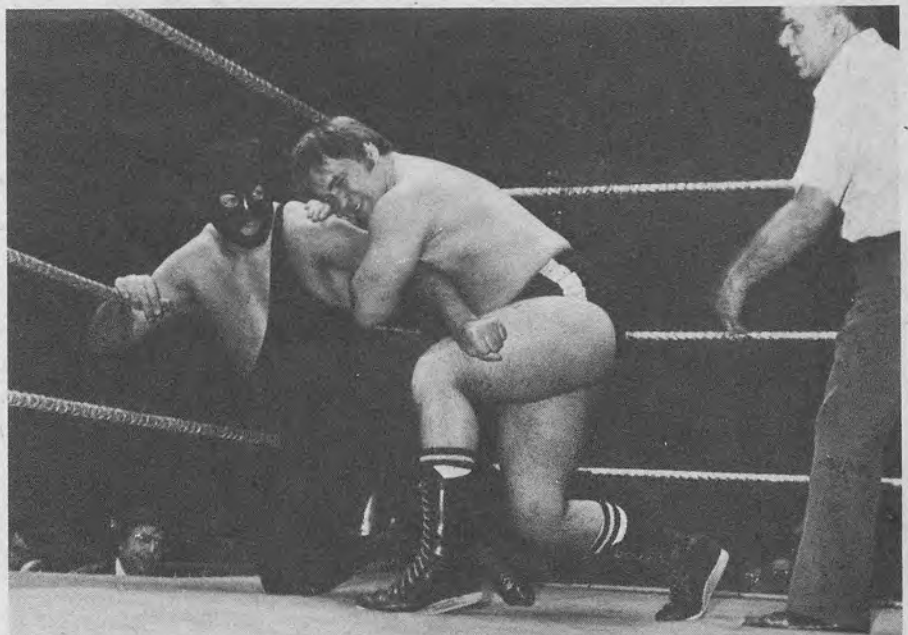
Above: Larry's strength and agility brings Silvana Sousa to the canvas in one of Zbyszko's best exhibitions of wrestling greatness. Below: Even against the dreaded Executioners, Larry gains the advantage and demonstrates his remarkable abilities.

learned fast. Without reservation, I can say he is just as good—in many important ways—as I am.

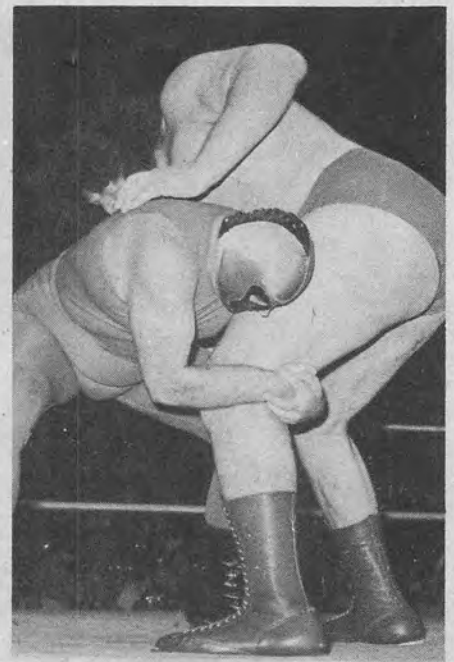
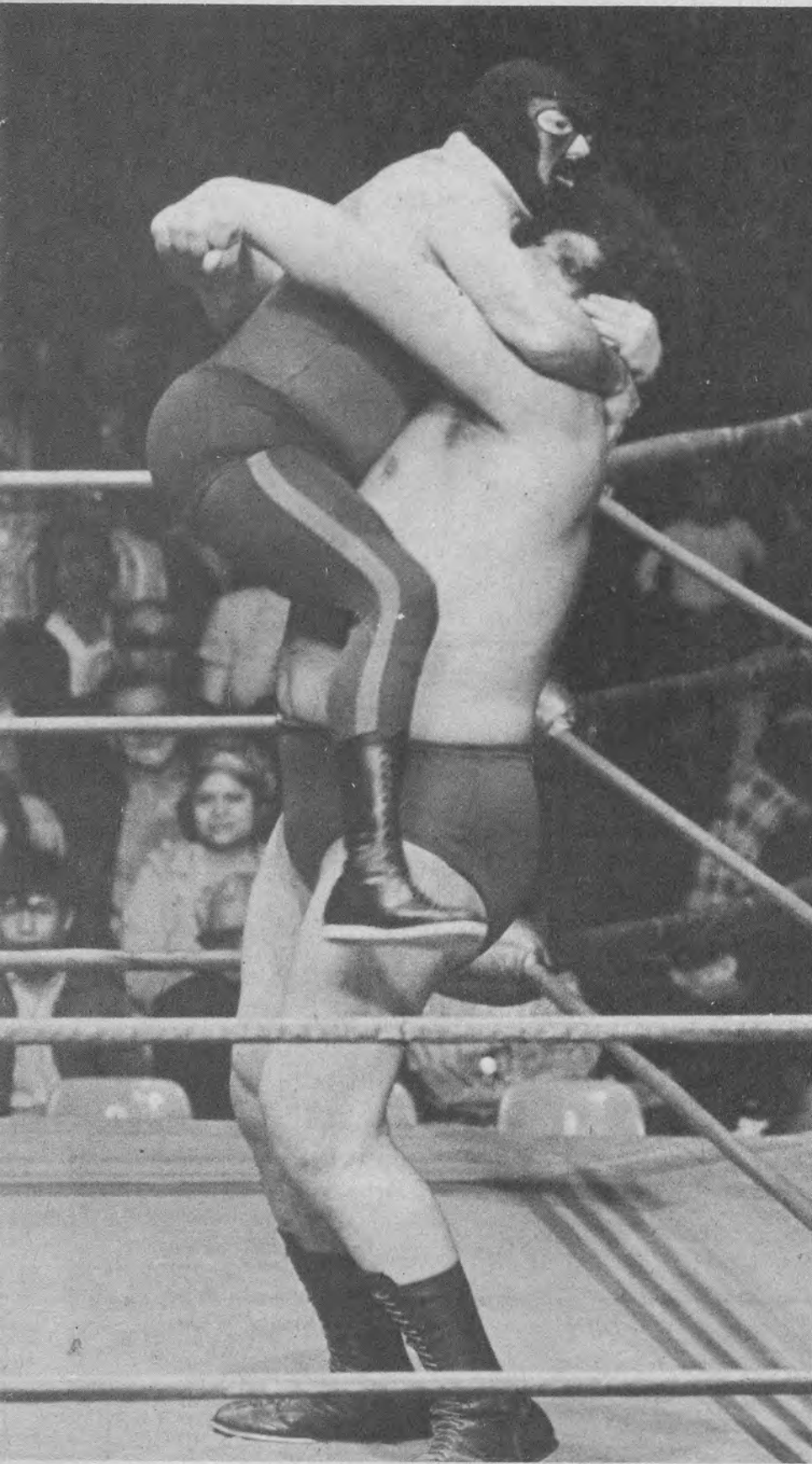
"If we were to wrestle in your computer tournament, I think it would be discovered you'd have a draw between us. If that happened, both Larry and I would be eliminated from further advancement. I have had my time of glory. I think it is now Larry's turn.

"Therefore, I request you do not match me against Larry, or else give the round to him by default. Let him advance. After all, he won't be wrestling just for himself, he'll be wrestling for both of us.

"I sincerely hope Larry makes it all the way to the top of your computer tournament. I do not wish to stand in his way. And it is better one of us continues through the rounds than for both of us to be eliminated, which would surely happen if the computer went through and compiled the actual match." □



# ANDRE THE GIANT vs. JACK BRISCO

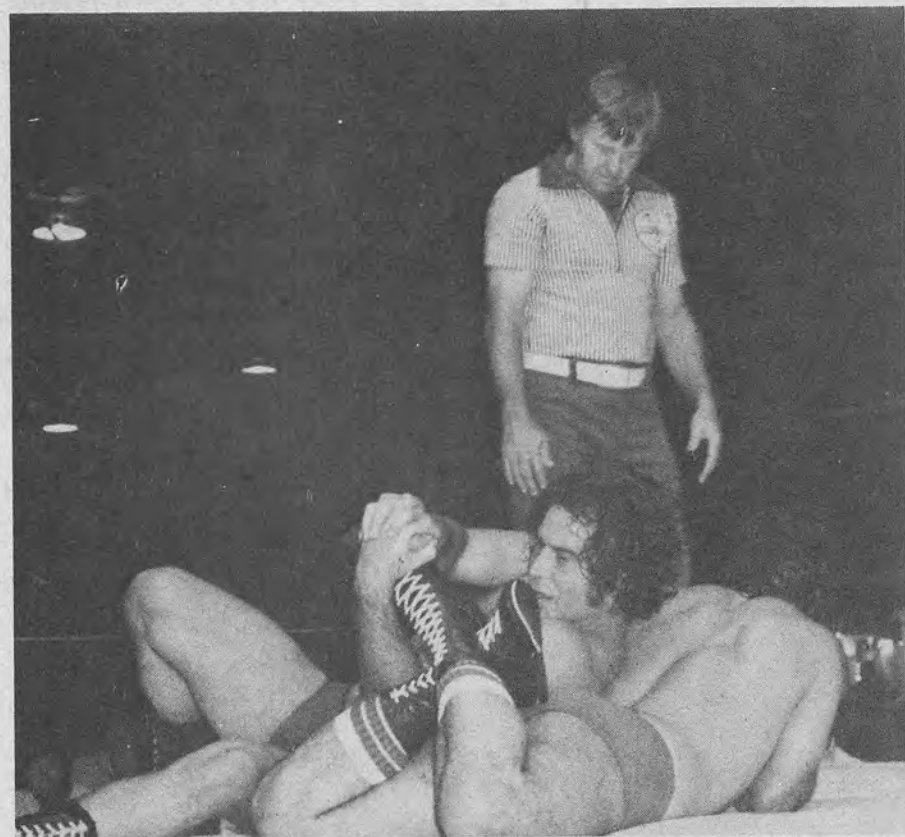
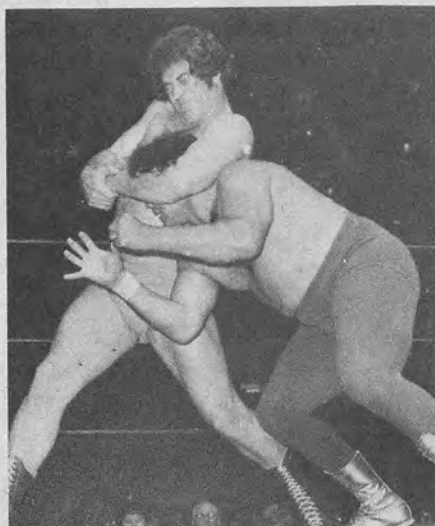


Andre squashes Inferno #1 as if the man was a teddy bear (left). After dispatching one Inferno, Andre takes on Inferno #2 (above). Andre often takes on tag teams in handicap bouts and emerges victorious. While all know of Andre's great size, many don't fully appreciate the man as a superb athlete in all respects.

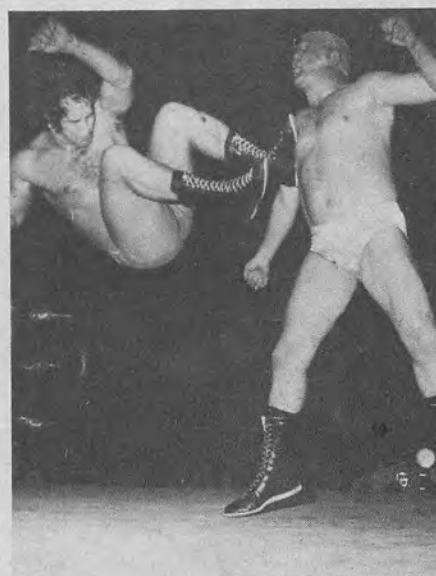
In many ways, these are the most evenly matched men in the elimination bouts. While Andre has the advantage of size and power, Brisco has the wide range of complex maneuvers working for him. Both men will use their advantages to their fullest.

Andre makes the first move. He tries to awe Brisco with his size, and for a few moments, he succeeds. He takes control of the action. But he makes one mistake. After flinging Jack across the ring, he does not follow through in time. Brisco has enough time to





Above left: Jack's great strength snares Jose Gonzalez in a headlock. Above: Terry Funk barely survives Andre's mauling. Left: Jack proves his scientific skills are second to none against Paul Jones. Below: A flying dropkick sends Harley Race reeling across the mat.



recover his senses. Then he goes to work on Andre.

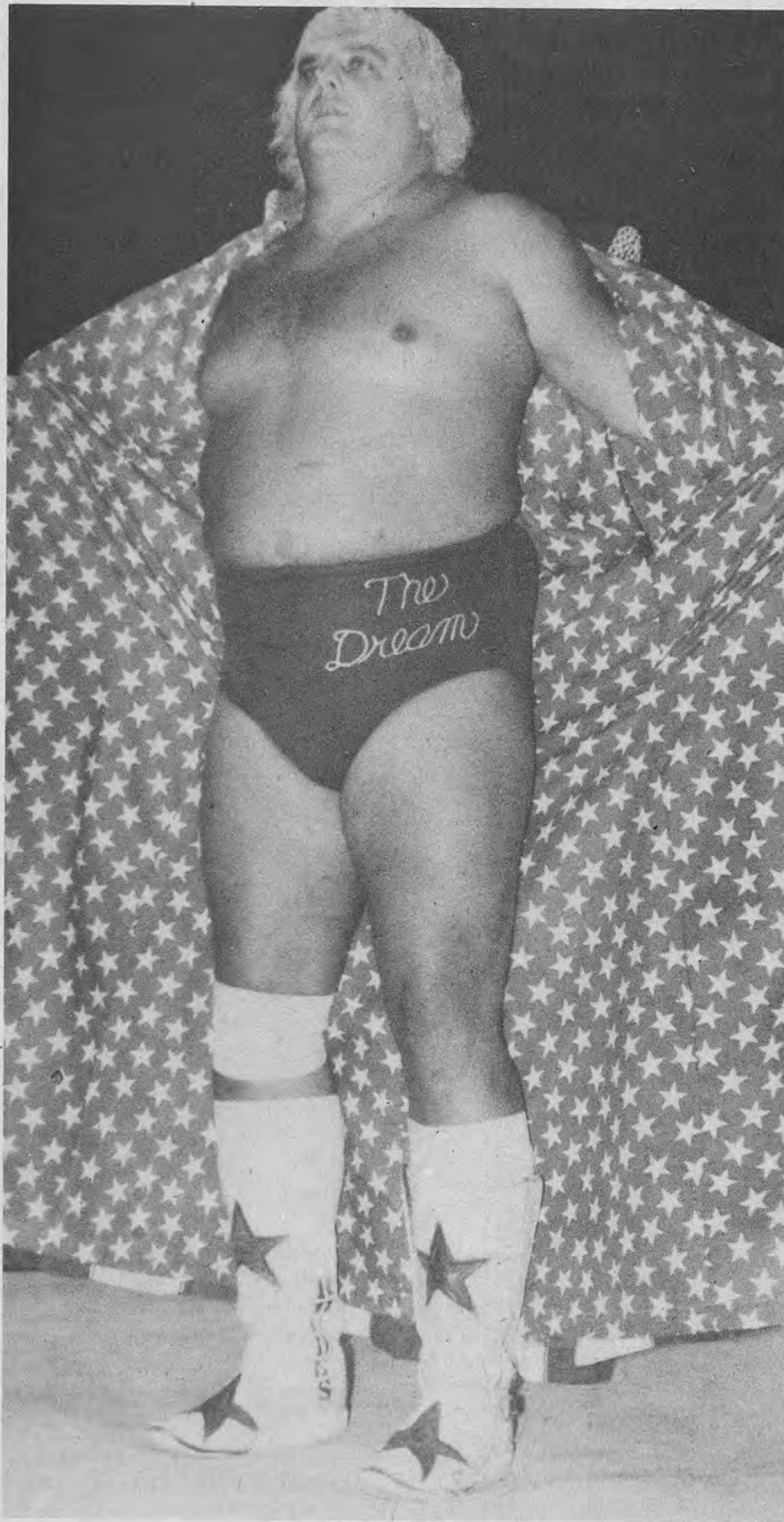
As a master tactician, Jack knows very well how to tie up an opponent. He also knows how to use Andre's greater size to his own advantage. First Jack tries to confuse the Giant, making it difficult for him to maneuver with much skill. Then Jack begins the hard part—going move for move with his huge opponent.

But Andre is not a man to lose control so easily. He knows exactly what Brisco is doing. He makes what appears to be a desperate move, but upon closer examination proves to be carefully calculated. He lunges toward Brisco and tries to pick him up, probably to put him in an airplane spin. However, Jack has been waiting for something like this to happen.

Brisco lets Andre come close enough

to grab him. Just when the Giant is about to lift Jack, he makes a very surprising move. Brisco, using a lot of power, puts an armlock on the Giant and forces him to release his hold on Jack. But it is too late for both men. The time limit runs out, and the match is declared a draw by the computer. According to the rules of the tournament, neither man will advance to the semi-finals. □

# KEN PATERA vs. DUSTY RHODES



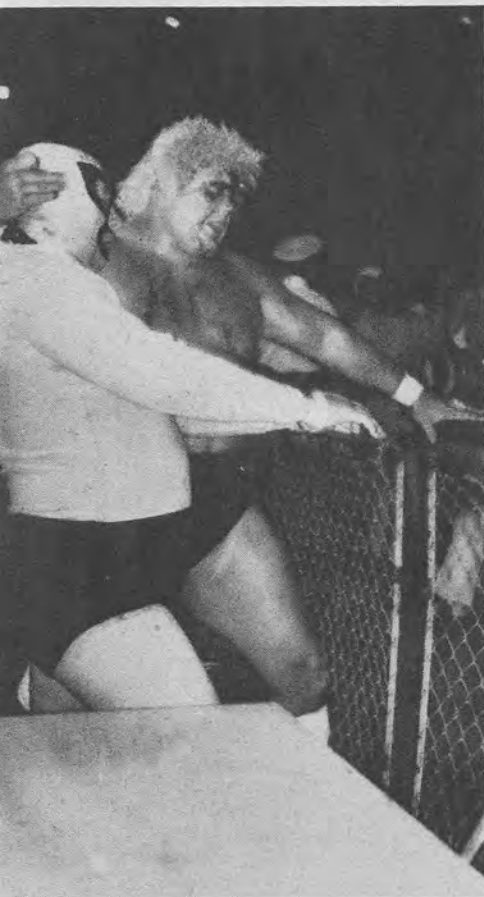
Above: Ken Patera isn't above taking a chair into the ring as a weapon. This is a recent development for the man who used to be one of the finest scientific wrestlers in the world. Left: Dusty Rhodes likes to show off his garments before a match. Below: When it comes to gaudy, Patera does not take second place to anyone.







**Above:** Dusty has Terry Funk hearing bells from an elbowsmash to the head in one of their many brutal bouts. Terry's roughhouse style can be compared to Patera in many ways. **Left:** When the action spills over the ropes, Dusty gives the Assassin a lesson in why heads should be smashed against fence railings.



By all rights, this should have been a match between Dusty Rhodes and Superstar Graham. The computer, however, has substituted Patera to be Dusty's opponent because Graham dropped out of the tournament. Still, this will be a match between two very strong men. It would seem Patera would have the advantage in strength. To win, Dusty will have to be very smart.

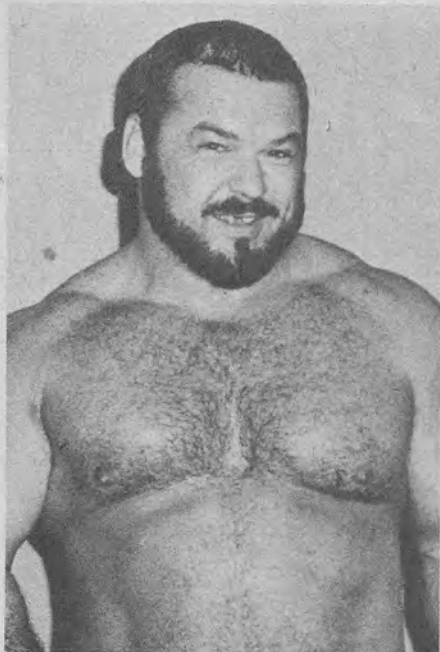
After the bell sounds, Ken begins the attack. He is determined to make this strictly a test of strength, knowing he can win in that field. But Dusty wants to employ some of his best maneuvers against Ken, knowing Patera will be vulnerable to them.

Within minutes, it looks like it will be Ken's match. He has swung the action to his style of wrestling, making it very difficult for Dusty to maneuver. Patera puts Rhodes in a bearhug which appears like it will be the last move of the match. But Dusty surprises Ken and breaks free, the whole match turns around.

Now that he is free to maneuver around, Dusty gets better. Soon he has Patera down on the canvas with a well-executed leglock. Ken relies on sheer strength to break free, but he does not gain any advantage. As soon as Patera breaks free of one maneuver, Dusty has another one ready to be applied. Ken's strength is all that is saving him from defeat at this point.

Then Dusty does something rather surprising: He lets up on his attack. Ken is not sure how to handle this, and he pauses for a moment. This is exactly what Rhodes wanted him to do. In that split-second Patera hesitates, Dusty prepares to deliver a flying elbowsmash. Rhodes follows through on his plan and stuns his opponent. Three seconds later, Dusty Rhodes has advanced into the semi-final round of the tournament. □

# IVAN PUTSKI vs. CHIEF JAY STRONGBOW

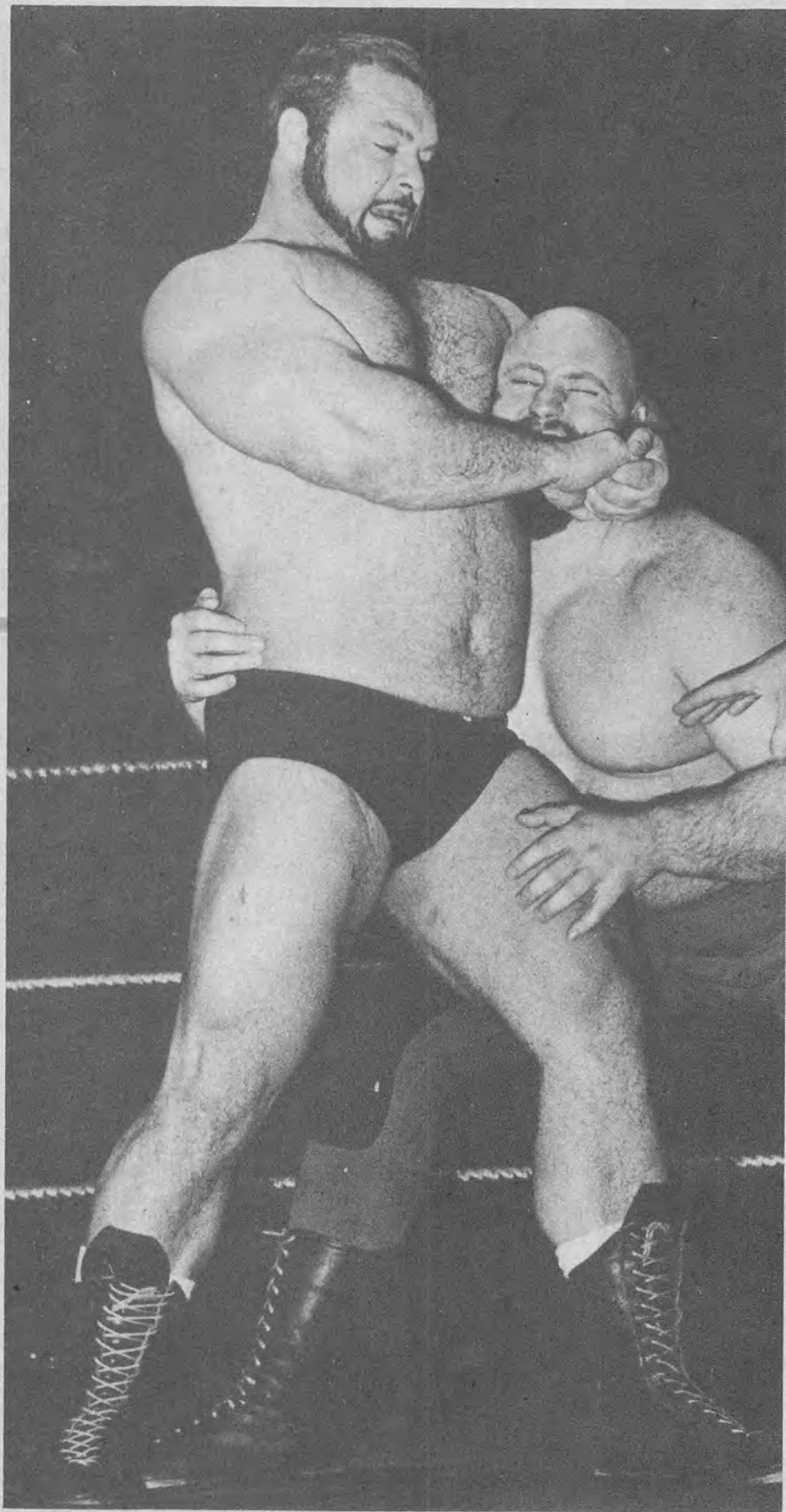


Ivan Putski has a right to smile (above); he's one of the most loved, respected, and admired men in all wrestling. His opponents fear Ivan because of his phenomenal strength, as Bugsy McGraw learns in the clutches of Ivan's headlock (right).

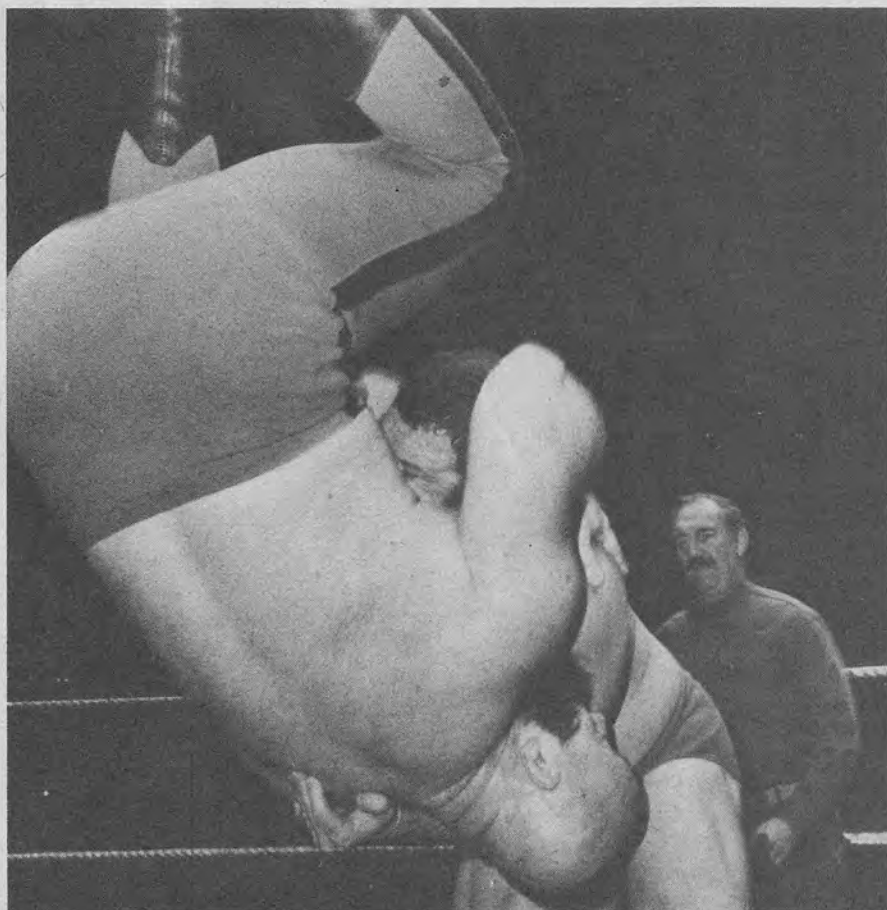
The computer almost blew a few transistors assembling the match between these two tough competitors. The two men possess similar skills, employ similar maneuvers, and have similar styles. The results are hardly a shock at all.

From the opening bell, it is obvious this is going to be a contest involving the two men's best maneuvers. Can Strongbow's "Tomahawk Chop" overcome Putski's famous "Polish Hammer"? In the opening minutes, both men are extremely cautious. They are trying to sense some weakness in the other man. There are none.

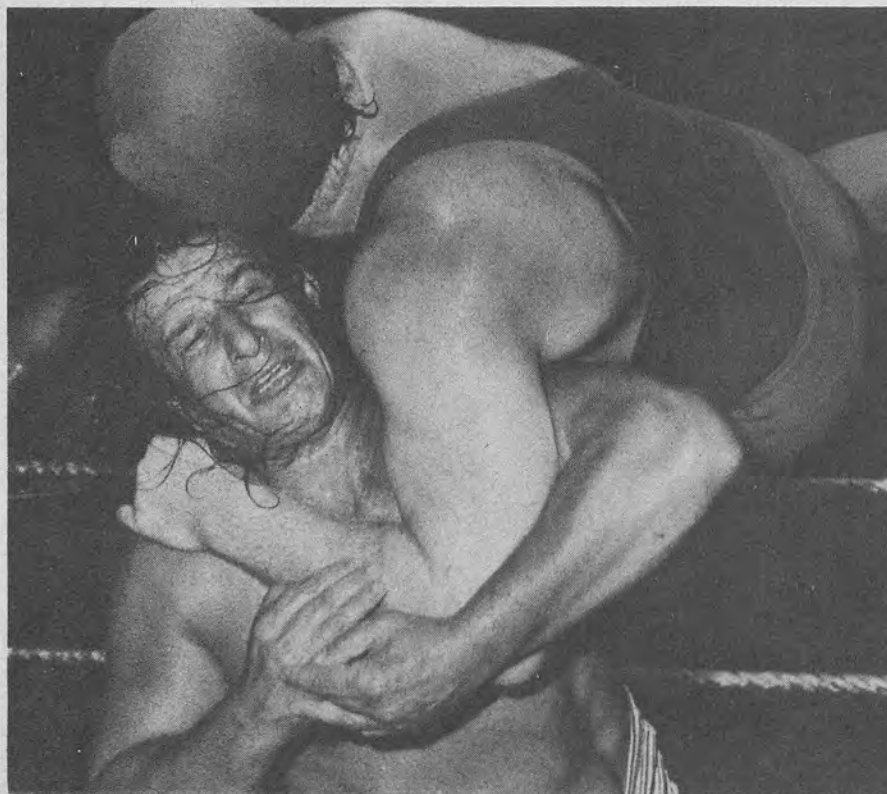
After five minutes, Strongbow goes on the offensive, trying to tie up Putski and confuse the Polish grappler. But that is not an easy task to do. Soon Ivan has reversed the situation and tries putting a nerve hold on Strongbow. For a few moments, it looks like Putski has the match.







Above: Chief Jay Strongbow has paid his dues to achieve his top rank as a wrestling superstar. Above left: Ivan Putski flips Bugsy McGraw to the canvas. Below left: Strongbow is a picture of wrestling fury as he sends an Executioner hurtling to the canvas fast and hard.



However, Strongbow is not ready to give up. He somehow breaks loose from Ivan's maneuver and reassumes his assault. Now Jay has control, and it is Ivan who looks like he may lose. The Chief tries to execute a stepover toehold—a move which Putski has always had trouble countering—but Strongbow is thwarted in his effort. Control reverts to Ivan.

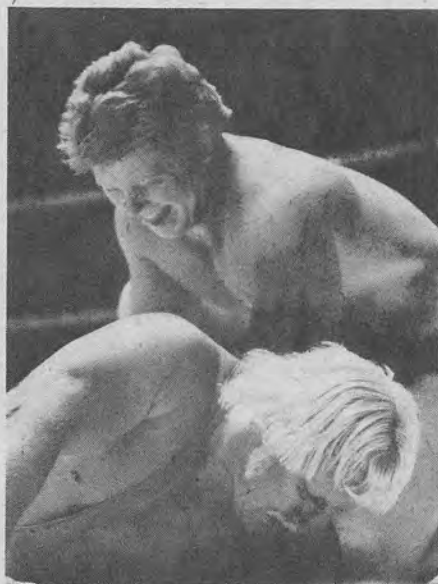
For the next 20 minutes, the advantage changes back and forth. Putski is finally able to use his "Polish Hammer," but Strongbow is able to defend himself.

At the 30 minute mark, the computer ends the match, calling it a draw. Both men have done extremely well, giving their best efforts to win. However, their best was just not good enough to gain a victory, so both men are eliminated from the tournament after an excellent battle. □

# MR. WRESTLING II vs. BOB BACKLUND

The voting in the fan ballots between Mr. Wrestling II and Bob Backlund was closer than any other two opponents. Therefore, there's no reason not to expect the contest between these two men to be equally close.

Though both men are scientific wrestlers, their styles differ greatly. Bob Backlund is young, energetic, and very quick. Mr. Wrestling II is more methodical and settled. This will be an interesting battle.



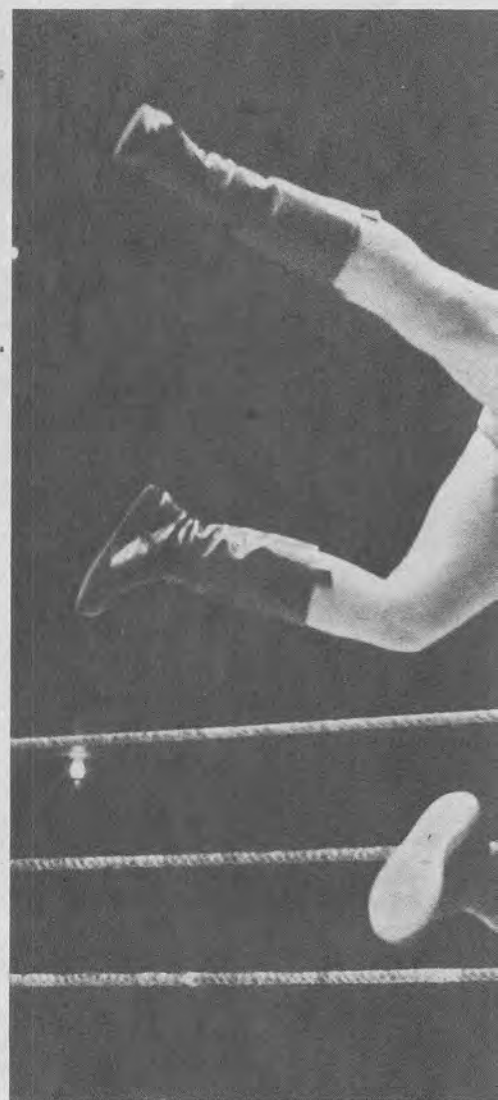
Above: Backlund pinions Roger Kirby to the canvas with a perfect armlock. Below: Mr. Wrestling II sends Terry Funk hurtling across the mat.

As the match opens, Bob seems to be waiting for Mr. Wrestling II to make the first move, which the masked wrestler does. Wrestling II is determined to make this a battle of maneuvers instead of styles. This does not bother Backlund; he is very adept at many maneuvers, a holdover from his days as a star amateur. He is able to handle himself very well against Wrestling II.

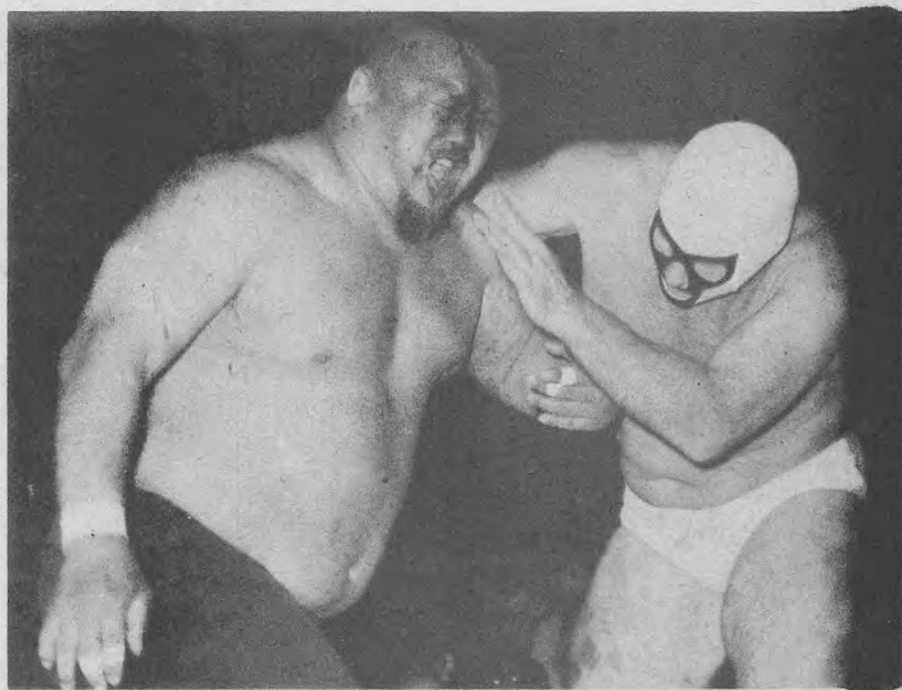
It is quite clear Backlund has surprised his opponent, doing much more than was expected of him. From this point on, Backlund will have control of the match. He is perfectly aware of everything he is doing.

Bob breaks free of the struggle on the canvas, daring Wrestling II to pursue him. Wrestling II takes the bait, which is a very bad mistake. Bob seems to have unlimited amounts of energy. He quickly tires out his opponent. Backlund knows this is happening, but he doesn't rush in for the win. He will take his time and do it his way.

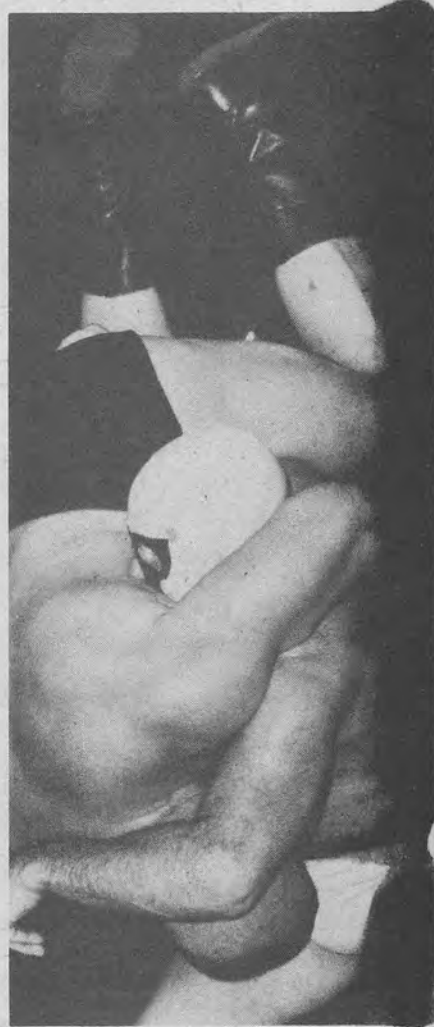
His patience pays off. Wrestling II is getting more and more tired pursuing the young man. The time is right. With very deliberate moves, Bob gets his opponent in a spinesmasher, which can be a devastating maneuver. But Wrestling II is able to break free—barely. He realizes he cannot win this match. At 23:49, Mr. Wrestling II submits. Bob Backlund, a most amazing young man, advances to the next step in the tournament. □



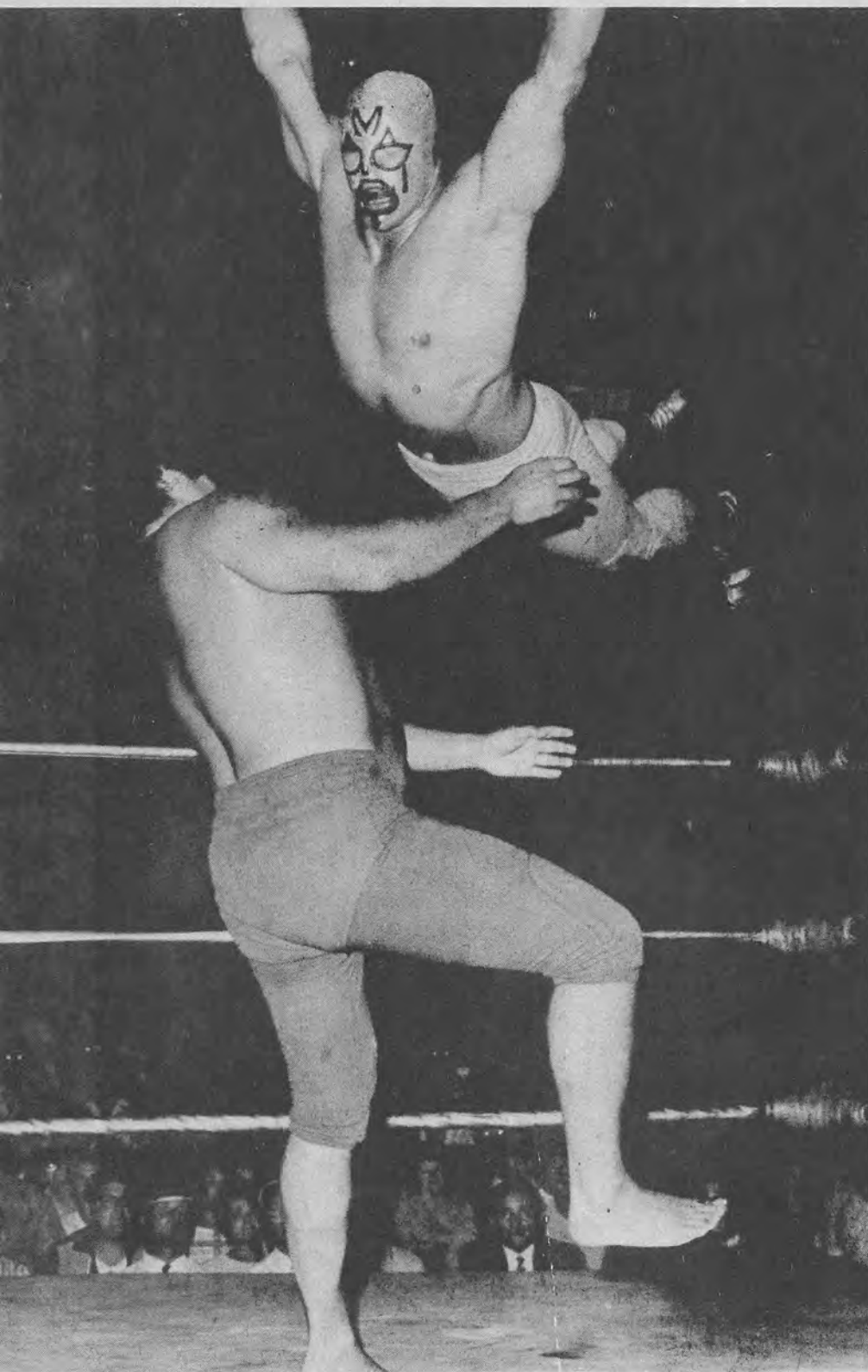




Left: Bob drags Kirby through the air.  
 Above: Bloody Toru Tanaka yelps from  
 Mr. Wrestling II's karate blow. Right: The  
 masked grappler flips Brute Bernard.  
 Below: Terry Funk is brought to his knees  
 by the always spectacular Mr. Wrestling  
 II. Opposite page, bottom right: Tanaka  
 and Mr. Wrestling II go at it before the  
 bell even rings!



# MIL MASCARAS VS. LARRY ZBYSZKO



Mil Mascaras leaps high in the air in preparation for a flying bodypress against Saito. Mil would do this against Larry Zbyszko again and again, trying to overwhelm the young man with the bodypress' awesome majesty. It is probable Larry would be stunned at first.

**I**T IS TO be a match of two scientific grapplers with very different styles. Mil Mascaras is acknowledged to be the best flying wrestler in the profession. Larry Zbyszko may be swift, but both his feet usually stay on the ground. This will be a clash of styles as well as grapplers.

In the opening moments, Mascaras attempts to gain a psychological advantage over his relatively inexperienced opponent. Larry expects Mil to come leaping at him, a whirlwind of dropkicks and flying bodypresses. That is what he has prepared to combat. Instead, Mascaras strides purposefully toward his young foe, challenging him with Larry's own maneuvers. That tends to make younger men lose their temper. Once a wrestler loses his temper, he's easy prey. Anger makes a man sloppy.

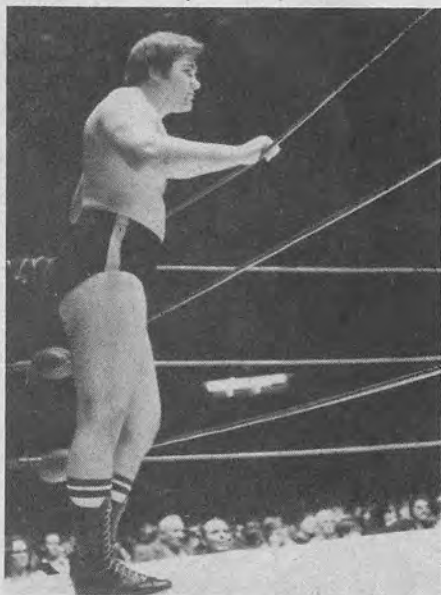
Zbyszko may be young, but he's no fool. He waits for Mil with a confident grin, realizing Mascaras' ploy. The two men meet in the center of the ring and lock. Mil knows the attempt to win a psychological advantage has failed. Now he must win a test of strength.

The masked grappler's body becomes an awesome vessel of power. Larry realizes straining against his opponent will require great strength and energy. In a match which can go to three falls, he can't afford that. Escape seemed the only solution. Zbyszko breaks free of the contest and retreats to the far side of the ring.

Mascaras understands what this means. Larry is professional enough to avoid encounters he can't win. While the young man is powerful, he's not about to stupidly test his strength against a man who might possibly beat him. Mascaras realizes this match will be decided by brains, not brawn.

There is no man in wrestling wilier than Mascaras. He has a sure sense of his abilities and more





varied strategies than anyone. He will bring all this into play against Larry. He starts by sailing into Zbyszko with a flying dropkick. It is quick, efficient, and painful. Larry reels across the ring.

Both Mascaras and Zbyszko know Larry is not hurt. To test Zbyszko, Mascaras tries to get his foe ensnared in a Mexican cradle. It is a difficult hold to execute and one that leaves a man wide open to a counter attack. Mascaras fully expects to be repulsed. He wonders how.

Mascaras instantly discovers, to his regret. Larry expertly reverses the action and snares Mil in an armlock. The pain forces Mascaras to his knees.

Now Mil's mind is racing. In a move too complicated to describe, he twists free. Zbyszko can hardly believe what happened. Stunned by his opponent's agility, Larry drops his guard for an instant. That's all it takes. Mil leaps in the air and captures Zbyszko in a flying legscissors. Larry does down.

It's now a test of strength between Mil's legs and Larry's neck. Mascaras has to force Zbyszko's shoulders to the canvas while Larry must try to bridge free. It's an intense struggle that takes

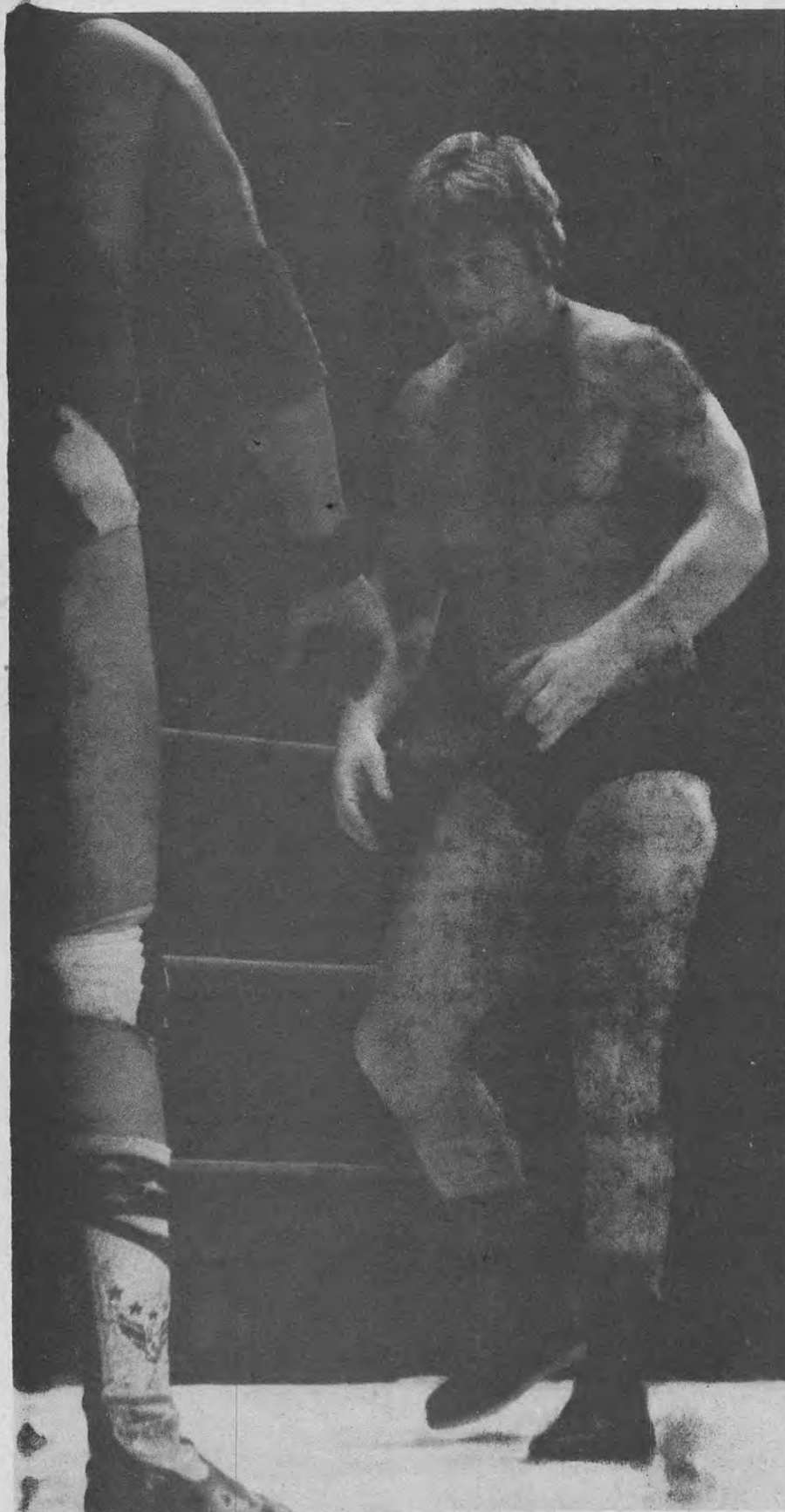
*(Continued on page 50)*



Above left: Larry Zbyszko is a study in concentration before a recent bout. Above: Larry is a raging animal as he wreaks revenge on the notorious Baron Scicluna. Below left: In a test of strength, Mascaras doubles over El Solitario, a young man with power and agility much like Larry. Below right: Mascaras snares Lars Anderson in a headlock.



# DUSTY RHODES VS. BOB BACKLUND



**Bob Backlund (above) enters the semi-finals. He is cautious and makes sure no foolish mistake will lead to his downfall (left).**

**T**HIS IS THE classic confrontation between veteran and young star. Dusty Rhodes pits years of experience against the brash youth of Bob Backlund. As for styles, Backlund is strictly scientific, while Rhodes adapts to the situation. Dusty is known to be foolishly reckless when angered or pressured. Rarely does Bob lose his calm center.

The two men eye each other carefully. Rhodes tries to look flamboyantly dangerous. Backlund appears confidently excited. Neither man rushes to attack when the bell sounds. It is a time for caution. No man wants to make an early mistake. It's a waiting game of nerves. Each waits for the other to commit himself.

Rhodes is never very good at a battle of nerves. He rushes in first. The wrestlers lock. Hands slap flesh as they break and look for an opening. Backlund hunches over and drives Dusty into the ropes. Backpedaling, Dusty elbows his younger foe. There's not much weight behind it, but it's enough to stun Backlund into releasing the hold.

Rhodes now mounts an offensive.





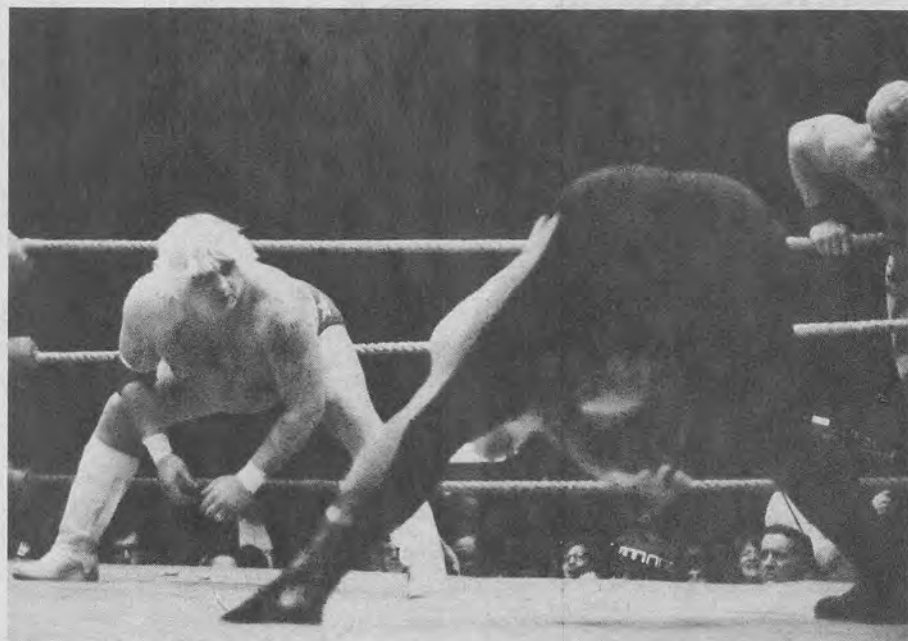
Above: Dusty captures Toru Tanaka in a devastating headlock. Left: Dusty has his arms raised in victory by the fans. Below: Rhodes and Baron Von Raschke square off.

His maneuvers are perfect, overwhelming. Backlund struggles to free himself from the man's expert grip. But the wily veteran anticipates Backlund's escape attempts and easily thwarts them. Dusty is growing more and more confident. He is now setting Backlund up for the finishing maneuver. Bob knows this and is struggling to get free.

Bob knows he can't escape without taking risks. All the safe maneuvers have failed. If he swings his body in a certain way, he can get out. He can also leave himself open to a figure-four leglock. Backlund takes the risk. He fails. Rhodes slips into the leglock before Backlund can prevent it. Rhodes wins the first fall.

Bob may have lost the fall, but he gained great experience. He now knows Rhodes' rhythms, his sense of maneuvering. All the study in the world can't teach you as much as eight minutes of combat. Bob always uses what he has learned.

It's Dusty's turn to be overwhelmed by an attack. Rhodes intended to use the same series of maneuvers which worked successfully before. This time,



Backlund has worked out the proper defense. Rhodes barely gets started when he finds himself on the defensive. Bob proves himself a superb tactician, confounding Dusty at every step. Rhodes starts to get reckless. Only the man's superb natural coordination keeps him from being defeated.

Backlund senses himself tiring. He backs off. Rhodes should use this time to recuperate. Instead, Dusty charges. Backlund hunches into a crouch and drives a shoulder into Dusty's belly. Rhodes goes down as if poleaxed.

Backlund leaps on Rhodes, hoping for the pin. Dusty times his bridge  
(Continued on page 56)

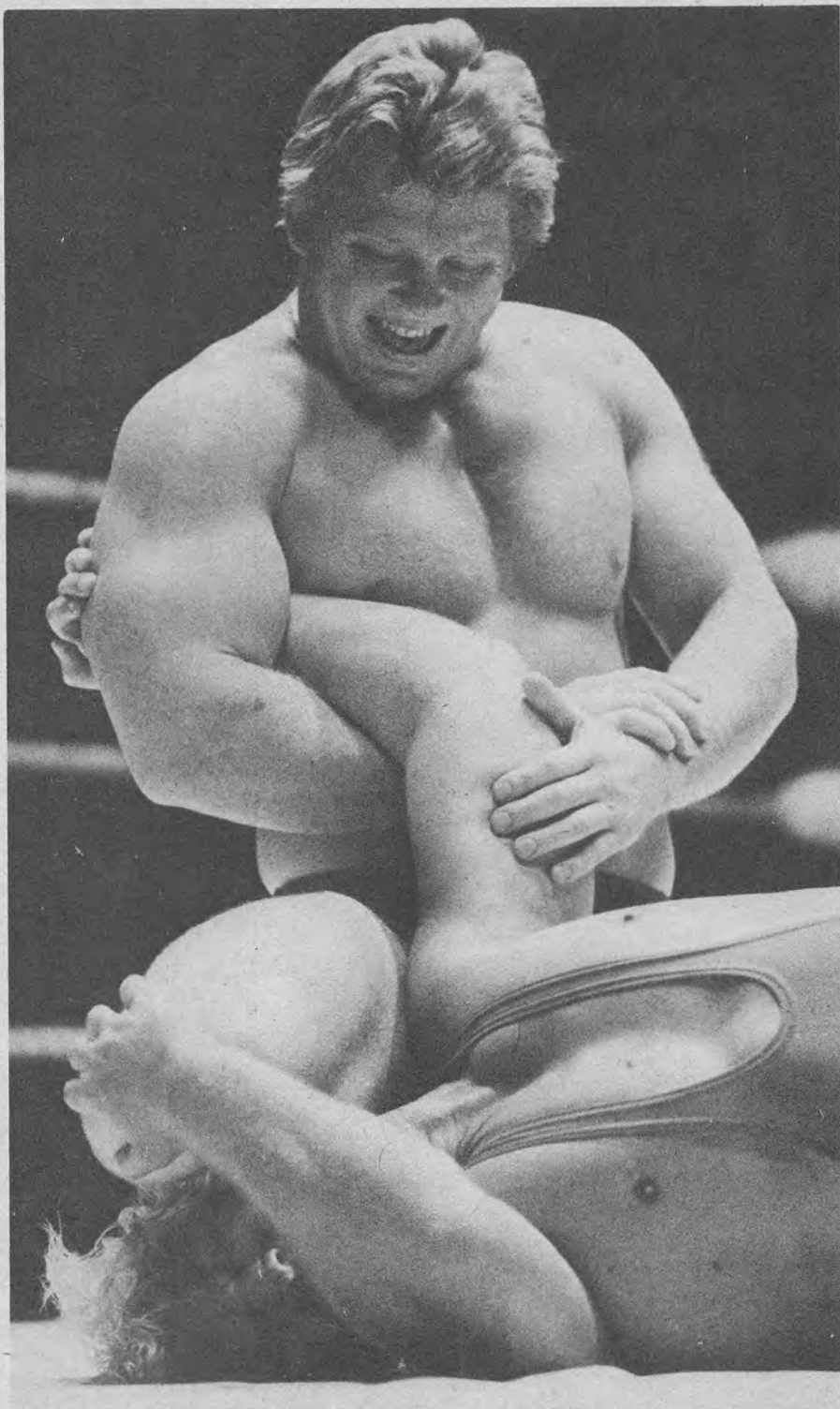
# MIL MASCARAS VS. BOB BACKLUND



Bob Backlund (above) and Mil Mascaras (below) are the two wrestlers in the final match determining the top man in the sport. Both men will use only their most reliable maneuvers. Bob relies on his figure-four armlock, like the one so effective against Roger Kirby (right).



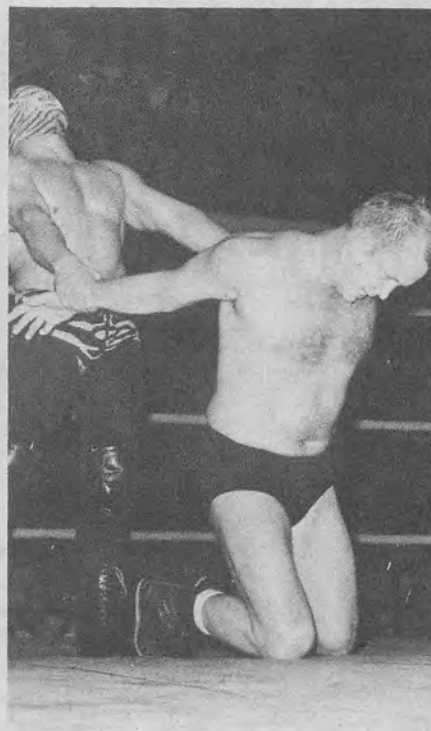
**T**HIS IS WHAT the whole tournament was for: to determine which of these top two grapplers should be regarded as the best wrestler in the world. And now it comes to pass.



According to an early test run made by the computer, even if men like Bruno Sammartino and Billy Graham hadn't dropped out, and even if Andre the Giant, Jack Brisco, Ivan Putski, and Chief Jay

Strongbow hadn't drawn, it would still be Bob Backlund and Mil Mascaras facing each other for the top honors. Everything worked out the way it was supposed to in the end. And now is the time for the





exciting conclusion to the Best Wrestler Tournament. It would prove to be the most exciting match of any in the tournament.

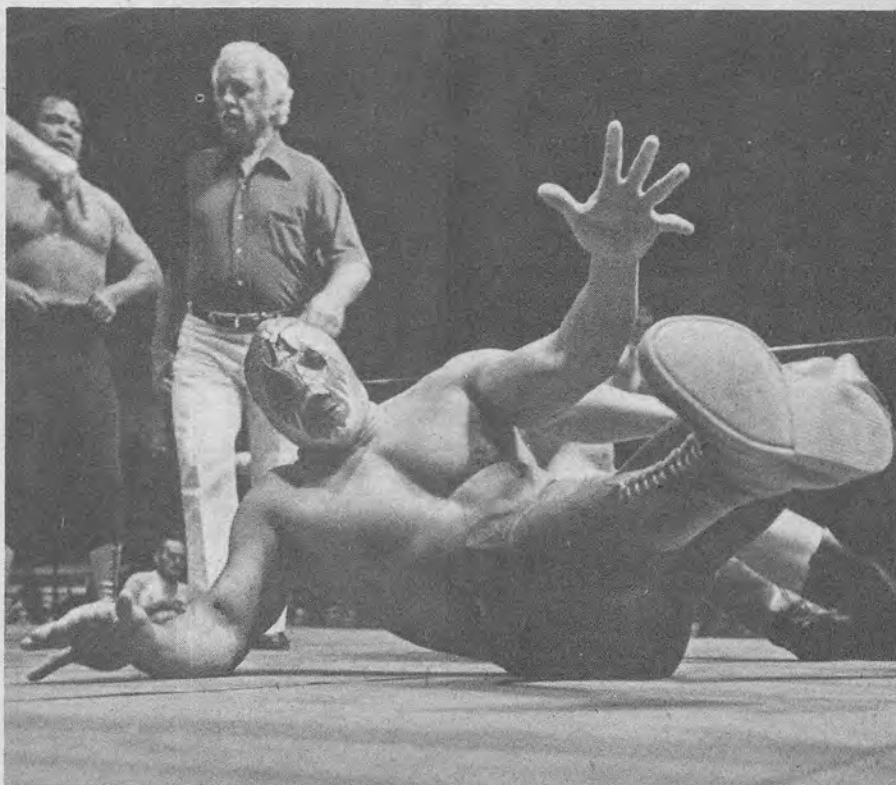
Consider the competitors. Mil Mascaras is the best flying tactician in the sport. No one even comes close to his abilities in this field. Bob Backlund is the best of the new-style wrestler. He has had a brilliant career as an amateur, and an amazing career as a rookie. Both men are agile. Both look good. This final match is a natural. In the best of all possible worlds, this is the best of all possible matches.

Consider the men these two have beaten to arrive at the top spots. Mascaras defeated Nick Bockwinkel and Larry Zbyszko. Backlund faced Mr. Wrestling II and Dusty Rhodes. These men are all tough competitors. Yet only these two survived.

As the bell rings, both men are ready for battle. Neither needs time to warm up or catch his rhythm. Neither needs time to look for weaknesses in the other man. They come out battling.

*(Continued on page 64)*

Above left: Backlund is elated as he forces Executioner #2 to the mat during their classic struggle. Bob will rely on his power against Mascaras. Above right: Dory Funk Jr. tries to escape the clutches of Mil Mascaras. Below: Mil goes flying after being thrown by Blackjack Mulligan. Jose Lothario, Mil's partner, looks on.



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ADULT  
READING

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(Continued from Page 10)

## WRITE IT IN!

Some of my choices are not on the ballot, so I want to thank you for allowing us to write in the others. Dutch Savage and Rip Hawk belong in there with the other greats. Please do not forget them the next time you do one of these tournaments!

DENISE WACHILLA  
Portland, Ore.



Andre the Giant looks determined as he contemplates the 10 men he most wants to drive from wrestling.

## WANTS MORE!

I loved "Andre the Giant's 10 Most Wanted List!" I think Andre should also have given you the men who are 11 thru 20. I know for a fact he wants to finish off Jerry Lawler, Bobby Duncum, Stan Hansen and Professor Tanaka. I look forward to the list in a future issue.

HOLLY WARDER  
Omaha, Neb.

## GORY DETAILS

"Bathed In Blood" was one of the goriest photo essays I have ever seen. It goes to show just how brutal a sport like wrestling is. When a wrestler gets into that ring, he had better be prepared to wind up a bloody mess. Wrestling is not a sport for sissies and this article certainly proved the point.

ARNOLD MELONKOWITZ  
Johnson, N.Y. ☐



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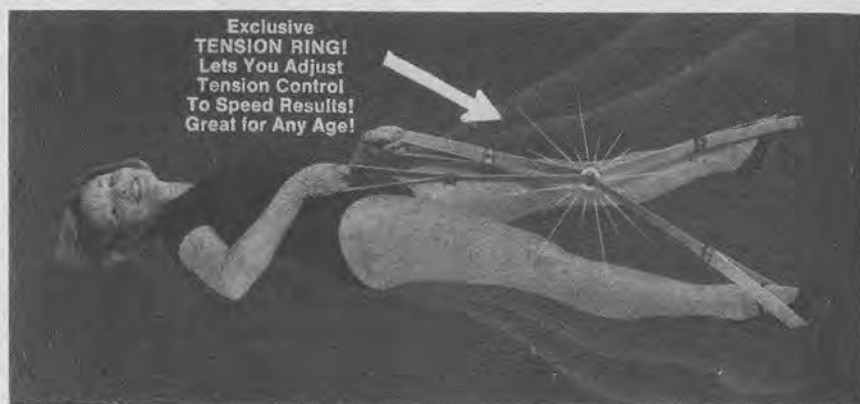
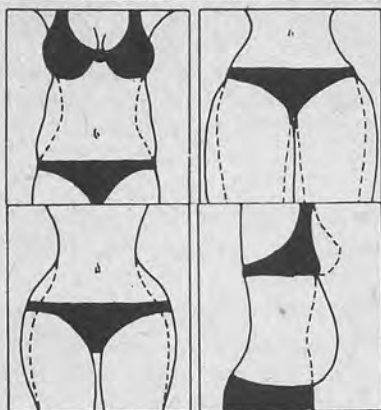
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## LARRY ZBYSZKO VS. MIL MASCARAS

(Continued from Page 43)



Mascaras sails into Super Scorpion, sending the grappler flying. Mil's flying tactics have confounded many top wrestlers from all over the world, making him one of the most accomplished men to ever participate in the sport. Mil is worshipped all over the world.

more than a minute. Both men's bodies are tensed to their limits. Then, Larry collapses and the first fall is over.

That proves to be Zbyszko's undoing. Mascaras decides since he has the first fall, he should go all out with the second. Chances will be taken, risks done, his most complex maneuvers attempted. If he is wrestling well, no man on earth can stop him.

Mil dominates the first few minutes of the second fall. He is majestic. Zbyszko proves his greatness by repulsing the attack. Then, with a superb counter-maneuver, an armgrab against a flying bodypress, Larry controls the match. For three minutes, Zbyszko maneuvers perfectly. Time and time again, Mascaras barely escapes. Both men grow weary from the intense action.

Larry knows if both men are equally tired, he has the advantage. Mascaras' best maneuvers require great energy and control. Larry's

more economical moves, not as devastating, require less grace and agility. The best way to defeat Mascaras is to wear him down. Mil's decision to be reckless for this fall has helped Larry a great deal in wearing the man down.

Still, Mil may be reckless, but he's not wild. He may take chances, but he knows what he's doing. The masked grappler is far from being wasted. While there may be less snap in his maneuvers, it's because he chooses to reserve the energy. He gambled from the start on maneuvers guaranteed to make difficulties, to leave him open to attack. It was a gamble he could afford to lose for a few minutes.

Then, Mil mounts his final attack. It's a long series of flying maneuvers. Larry has never been assaulted by such a barrage. Indeed, few men have. None have ever survived. Larry is no exception.

Mil Mascaras wins the match with the best exhibition he will give in the tournament. □



## HEREDITY IS NOT THE ONLY CAUSE OF BALDNESS.

You may think that there's just nothing you can do about losing your hair. And if your problem stems from heredity, you're right. But there are other causes of hair loss than heredity. How many people do you know who have hair problems but whose parents have thick healthy heads of hair? It's not unlikely that a lot of people reading this ad have hair problems that can be corrected by simply providing their hair with the nutrients it needs to replenish itself.

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## Don't worry about the hair you lose. Worry about your ability to replace it with new hair.

There's no real mystery about hair. Young people have lustrous, vital hair and plenty of it. As we mature, it gets harder for us to replace the hair we normally shed — the same way it gets harder to replace bone cells or teeth enamel, or skin and muscle tissue. To have a full head of strong, healthy hair, we need to give the scalp the nourishment it needs to fight against aging (which can start as early as 19), to grow new hair. That's what our Vita Hair will help do.

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## Don't confuse Vita Hair with high-priced cure-alls and imitations.

Vita Hair is no more — or no less — than what we claim it to be. It's a special dietary formula which will provide your hair with the nutrients needed to grow and thrive.

It's developed by Weider Laboratories, a company that has been in the dietary supplement business for over forty years (one reason it's priced so much lower than its major competition).

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## HANDWRITING

(Continued from Page 18)



### DUSTY RHODES

The opulent style of this person tells of a large ego coupled with a desire for renown. The florid capital letters are almost lost amongst the lower case letter which take up close to an entire space.

I noticed the elaborate way he crosses his "t's," the way the cross bar almost breaks the line above it. Similarly, the "i's" are not dotted, but circles appear above the letter.

This is a person who wants to be admired. However, by the darkness of the letters, caused by bearing down with the pencil, there will be few allowed to stand in the way of his success.



### MOONDOG MAYNE

The huge, grotesquely, formed letters in this sample are formed to intimidate the reader. The different flourishes show an unstable personality. The slashing lines in the "j," "k," and "i" show an enormous capacity for violence.

In many places on this sample, the pen was pressed so hard into the paper as to almost tear it. The paper looks like it's been attacked!

### IVAN PUTSKI

This could very easily be a child's scrawl except for some very definite adult flourishes. In other words, a very mature mind is hiding behind a childish pose.

The sure, regular loops on his "p's," "g's," and "j's" give away the pose he hopes to create with the sloppy scrawl and simplistic capital letters. When he joins the lower case "o" or "w" to other letters, it's a short, jerky motion which usually extends past the top of the joined letter. This signifies a personality in flux, a man trying to discover himself while trying to hide his real identity.





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VS-67

## JERRY LAWLER

If a handwriting analyst wished to show an example of an egotistical personality, this sample would do perfectly. However, the way some letters slash through the bottom and top lines show unbridled cruelty.

Over and over again in this sample, letters take up an inordinate amount of space. The page is full, leaving no lines unoccupied by his oversize lettering. The "o's" and "p's" can only be described as lush.



## GORGEOUS GEORGE JR.

The pronounced slant of this script reveals a person who wants acceptance and adulation at any cost. This is an obsessed personality, one which will go to any length to gain recognition.

The perfectly formed letters with regularly repeated flourishes reveal a fastidious personality. One could compare him with a peacock. He strives for brilliance with a crazed determination. One would be wise not to anger him or appear to interfere with his success. ☐

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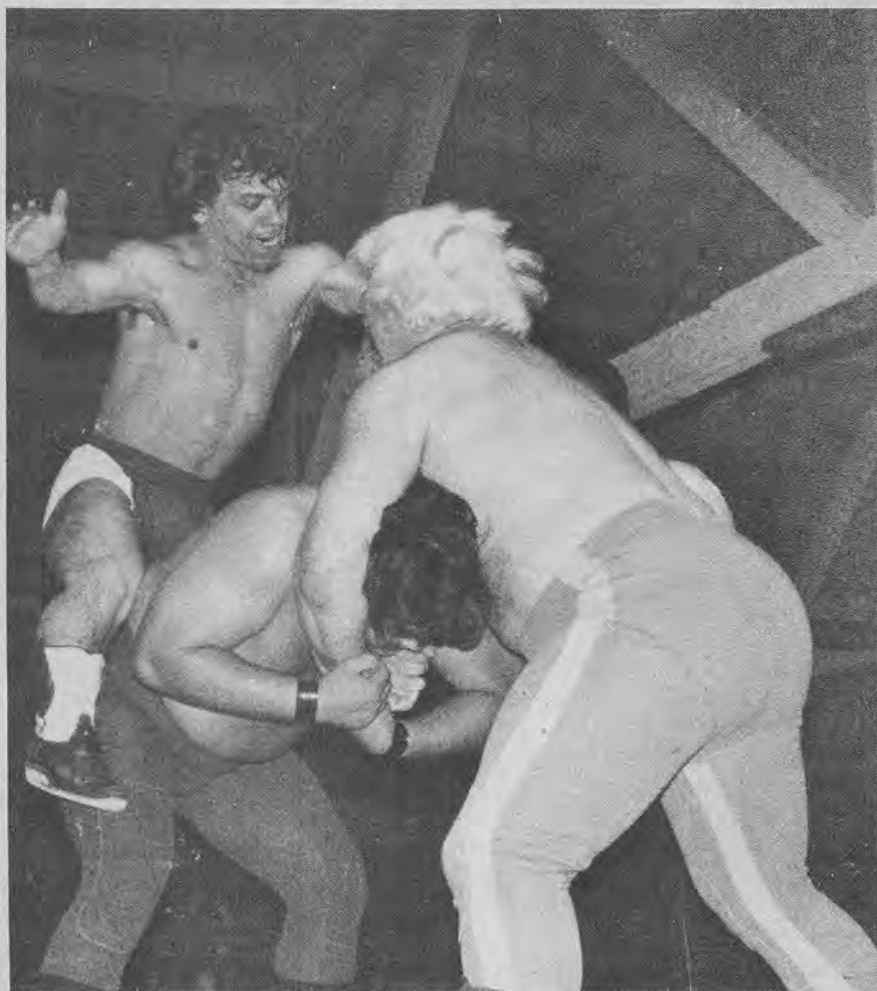
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## MOONDOG (Continued from Page 21)



Above: Cowboy Lang leaps upon his captured partner, Raul Mata, and lands a hard left to his partner's tormentor, Moondog Mayne. It shows how well the team of Mata, Lang, and the Haiti Kid functioned. Right: Little John leaps on the Haiti Kid, being held by Billy the Kid.



Raul, realizing his insensitive mistake, quickly said, "I'm sure you're right and I didn't mean to underestimate anyone. It's just that I hate Mayne so much I'm often blinded to other considerations." Raul smiled when he added, "I only wish someone was there all the time to make me realize how badly I get hurt concentrating on Mayne. I'd have a lot less

stitches in my head!"

As quickly as the tension appeared, it vanished. With a new mutual respect and understanding, the trio mapped out strategy.

On the night of the confrontation, Mayne jogged into the arena, cackling to some joke only he knew. Following him were a very nervous Billy the Kid and Little John. The midget duo had



long ago ceased trying to understand their partner.

In stark contrast, the other team marched in as a trio united in a common purpose. They knew what they wanted to do and had every intention of doing it. In a few short weeks, these three had become a team in the best sense of the word.

When the bell rang and the match began, Lang and Little John walked cautiously toward each other. Then they locked in a test of strength. Lang, after an exhausting contest, finally tossed his foe to the canvas. But before he could follow up his advantage, Mayne had leaped over the rope and trapped Lang in a full-nelson.



*The Haiti Kid snares Billy in a perfect airplane spin early in this extraordinary battle.*

That brought out the other four wrestlers. The harried referee was running all over the place trying to attain some kind of order. It was a hopeless task.

The six were in there to the finish. Even those few times when the referee could get one of the grapplers through the ropes and onto the apron, it was only for a few moments. Then it would be all six in there battling again.

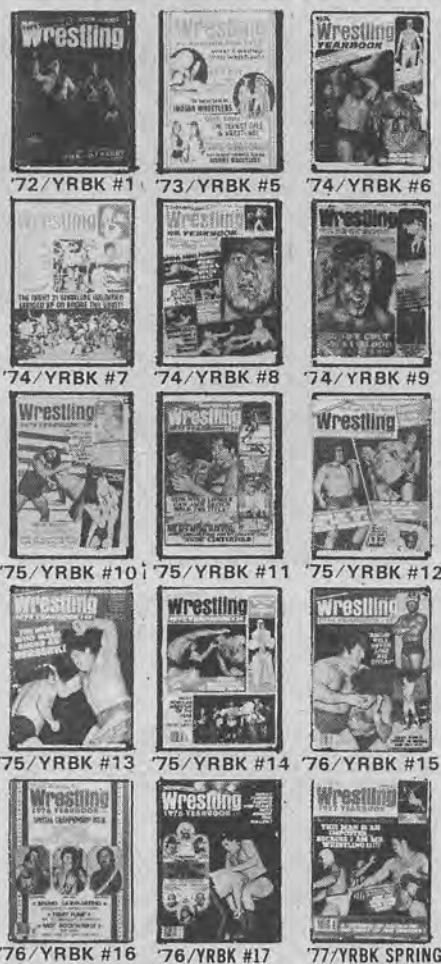
As the brawl progressed, it became obvious which trio had become a team. Mata, Lang, and the Haiti Kid had a method in everything they did, working like a devastating machine against their opponents. As for Mayne, Billy, and John, they proved themselves three tough men. But only the two midgets showed any sign that they knew it was to be a team effort.

Finally, when he could take it no more, the referee declared a double disqualification. When he heard the decision, Mayne howled in outrage and ran back to the dressing room. His teammates soon followed.

Watching their opponents leave, Mata, Lang, and the Haiti Kid smiled. They had battled together, each doing his part, and there was no difference between them. □

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## DUSTY RHODES VS. BOB BACKLUND

(Continued from Page 45)



Above: In agony, Dusty doubles over from a torturous wristlock executed by the Assassin. Below: Bob Backlund grabs a foe's leg.



perfectly and Backlund is sent flying off. Rhodes is more careful this time and retreats to a corner. Both men assess their current condition and decide how to mount the attack.

This time, Backlund starts the attack. Rhodes repulses him without gaining any advantage of his own. Backlund tries again, this time more successfully. Rhodes is thrown to the canvas. Backlund swarms over him, never letting the victim move. The referee counts. The second fall is over. The match is tied.

Neither man wishes to take the offensive as the third fall begins. Each waits for the other to make the fatal mistake. They circle, looking for the

advantage. Rhodes darts in, then just as quickly backs off. Backlund doesn't even move.

It takes almost a minute of wary circling before anything happens. Backlund feints a move to the legs and then grabs Rhodes' arm. He sends Dusty sailing through the air, finally landing against a turnbuckle. Rhodes is stunned, but not badly. His movements will be sluggish for the next few minutes.

Backlund wades in, sensing victory. He tries to use the same series of maneuvers used to defeat Harley Race for the Missouri title a while back. Dusty has done his homework. Sensing what is coming, he thwarts the plan and counters beautifully. Backlund is in trouble.

Dusty goes for the pin. Backlund bridges out at the last instant, although he has not escaped Rhodes' clutches. Dusty still has him in a figure-four armlock. Rhodes is growing impatient, however. He wants the victory quickly.

That is his undoing. He releases the hold for too long and Backlund escapes. Dusty is angry at himself for letting Backlund escape. He gets sloppy, reckless. His concentration is broken. Backlund takes advantage of this. One bodyflip to the canvas has Rhodes down. Bob springs on top of his foe. Three seconds later, the match is over.

Bob Backlund goes on to the finals. □



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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

(Continued from Page 12)



*Before getting zonked with a birthday cake, Chief War Eagle takes a lot tougher punishment from Raoul Casillo (above and left) earlier in the evening.*



The cold sensation of a birthday cake thrown against the side of his head was the none too subtle indication for the Chief that this would be a short but wild gathering. Scraping the goo from his head, he turned and hurled it at the birthday lad, barely hitting him.

Pierre, expecting an attempt at retaliation, had already scooped out another handful of ammunition. However, to show he regarded all his friends equally, the next round scored a bullseye into the face of Raymond Rougeau.

Raymond laughed gleefully and decided to make it a general war. Gino Brito was laughing at the already injured when he got a handful smeared in his hair. Gino leaped at the ammunition pile and then made a direct hit into Dennis Gauthier's face.





Chief War Eagle is usually a dignified grappler. But can anyone remain dignified with gooey birthday cake covering face, hair, body, and trunks?

From that moment on, it was a free-for-all. Cake flew in all directions as faces became obscured through masks of cake. Their aim would probably have been better if they hadn't been laughing so hard.

Eventually, when they were too weak from laughing to stand, and the cake was reduced to a sticky mess spread across wrestlers and canvas, the group retreated to the dressing room. Rarely have athletes so desperately needed showers.

Even as the water cascaded over their bodies, the men continued to laugh hysterically. They would think back upon how each other looked and the howls of glee would begin anew. At one point, Pierre was laughing so hard that he had to sit down on the tiles.

"This was my idea of a birthday party!" Pierre exclaimed, when those who had intended to quietly honor him once again resembled human beings. "I've never enjoyed a celebration so much. Know why I did it?"

Chief War Eagle quickly replied, "Because you're crazy!"

"Nope," said Pierre, "it's because I hate cake!"

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## BEST WRESTLER

(Continued from Page 29)

counted, the computer began to analyze the results.

To determine who would be matched against whom in the elimination matches, the computer used a random selection generator. And therein lay the second major problem we ran into—one which was predicted by the computer.

Before the computer printed out the results of the elimination matches, we contacted each wrestler to find out his prediction of the results. Here we ran into trouble. The computer had

Therefore, when you see the results of the match between Larry Zbyszko and Bruno Sammartino (page 36), please remember why it had to be that way.

The computer demanded one major condition to which we complied. After analyzing the data, the computer determined there might be contests which ended as draws. If that was the case, both men would be eliminated from further competition. That was done. And indeed, there were two draws in the elimination matches: Andre the Giant vs.



randomly selected Bruno Sammartino to wrestle Larry Zbyszko. The two men have been close friends for some time now, and Larry has been Bruno's protege since the beginning of his career.

In one of the most gracious moves any man has ever made, Bruno requested he be dropped from further competition in the tournament in favor of Larry Zbyszko. We had a gut feeling this was going to happen. We had no other choice but to honor Bruno's request. Neither he—nor the computer—would have it any other way.



Jack Brisco and Ivan Putski vs. Chief Jay Strongbow.

All in all, the computer did the best possible job. The results may surprise you, but you must remember this is what the computer said would happen.

This is the tournament you helped put together. Your votes determined who would be in this event. It has been done in the fairest possible way, with no favoritism shown for any particular wrestler.

Sit back now and read how your favorite wrestlers did in this great tournament. □



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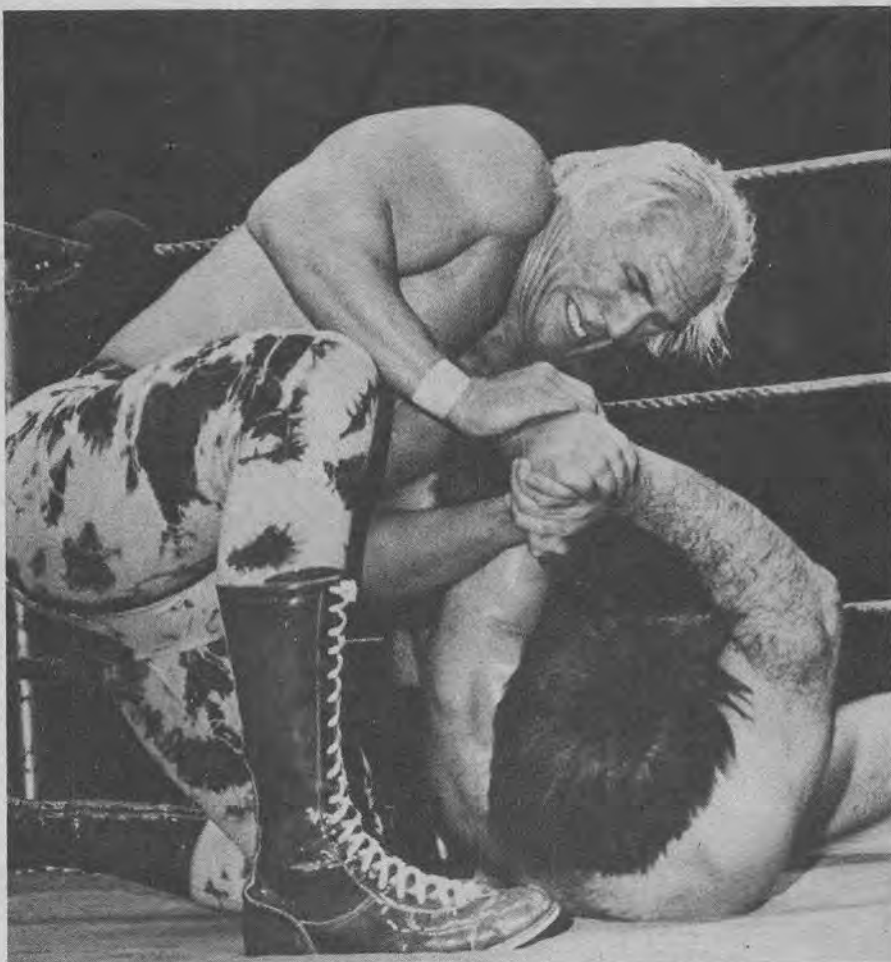
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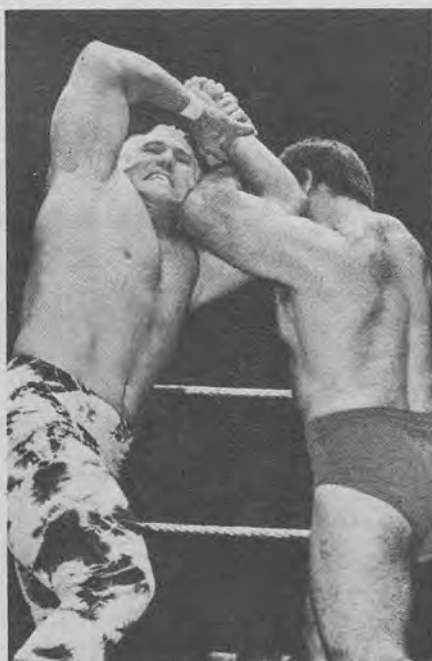
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# BILLY GRAHAM

(Continued from Page 27)



Above: Superstar Billy Graham brings Sammartino to the canvas as Bruno loses a test of strength. Below: The face of Graham betrays his exertion as he battles Sammartino.



considering there would only be 12 men finally chosen to compete with each other for the top honors. Many people had widely varying views on who should be included. But when all was said and done, the fans' choice was clear. Superstar Graham had garnered enough votes to be placed in the tournament. And with his ascension to the championship of the WWWF, he certainly deserves to be included.

When the idea for a Best Wrestler Tournament was announced, one of the first supporters of the plan had been Superstar Billy Graham. He praised it as, "an idea whose time has come. It will be a chance to prove I am the best man wrestling today." But time does strange things to a man. So does winning a championship of a major association. Between the time the tourney was first announced and the time for the tournament itself to begin, Graham decided not to compete.

Though he had pursued the WWWF title before, he had never gone after the



championship with so much zeal. Bruno's hold on the belt weakened, and was then completely broken. Superstar Graham was there to pick up the pieces. And when he won the championship, he immediately wanted to withdraw from the Best Wrestler Tournament.

"I don't need any tournament to tell me I'm the best," said Graham. "By now, everyone must know. I've proven it, daddy. You can take your tournament and shove it!"

When Graham withdrew his name from the tournament, all hell broke loose. Many people involved in the planning of the event suddenly withdrew their support as well. Soon the whole idea began to fall apart. As one leading promoter, who wished not to be identified, said, "You simply cannot hold a best wrestler tournament without the champion of the WWF. The whole idea is no longer legitimate." Many people echoed his sentiments.

Thousands of fans throughout the world had wanted this tournament, and now it had fallen apart, all because of Superstar Billy Graham. The only way to save it was to turn it into a computer tournament, but it would not be quite the same thing. Superstar Graham had chosen to sabotage the entire event, thereby spitting in the faces of every wrestling fan in the world. Every hope of having one world champion was shattered by Graham's selfish attitude.

Of course, there was some suspicion Graham withdrew from the tourney because he was afraid he wouldn't win. That is very possible. One thing is for sure, the Best Wrestler Tournament would have proven if his claim of being the best wrestler in the sport was valid.

Graham also requested his name be dropped from our computer tournament, thereby compounding the damage he had already done. He had spit in the faces of the fans a second time. He must really be afraid to learn the truth.

It is very likely the winner of our computer tournament will someday face Superstar Graham in actual battle. Graham, who claims he is the best, will have to wrestle the man the computer picked as the best. It will be an interesting contest. And the fans may get the revenge they deserve for this outrageous slap in the face. □

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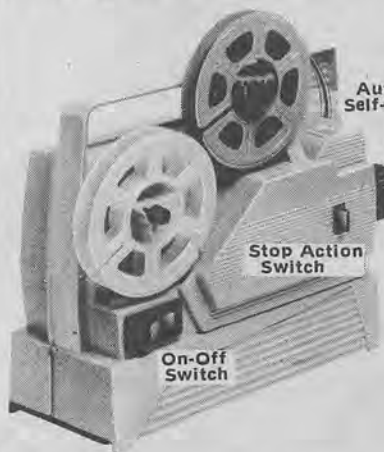
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Regina, Sask., S4P 3R9

**ELIMINATE Debts!** Details 35¢. Debts (92375),  
232 Front, Napoleon, Oh. 43545

## MIL MASCARAS VS. BOB BACKLUND

(Continued from Page 47)



Above: Bull Ramos screams in agony as Mascaras applies the pressure. Below: Bob Backlund is a poised young man with a great future.



Both men try to launch an assault immediately. It is obvious this will be a quick, two out of three fall match. Mascaras prevails in this initial offensive. A flying

elbowsmash has Bob down on the canvas, but only for a few seconds. Backlund bounces back and tries to catch Mascaras in a headlock. Mil is able to break away. He steps back and prepares for his next move.

In any other match against any other opponent, this would have been the correct move for Mascaras to make. But against Bob Backlund, it is useless. Bob is too quick. He moves with Mil. He presses him, not giving him room to execute his flying tactics. Backlund is so full of energy and spunk, he appears to be all around Mil, making it impossible for the masked wrestler to have enough room to maneuver.

Mascaras becomes slightly annoyed at the constrictions Backlund has placed upon him. This is exactly what Bob wants. In a move which had proven effective against another masked wrestler in this tournament—Mr. Wrestling II—Bob applies a well-executed spinesmasher on Mascaras. The tactic proves to be effective again. Within a few seconds, Bob is awarded the first fall.

At the beginning of the second



fall, both men are still full of energy. The action takes a decidedly different turn this time. Instead of employing those tactics with which they are both entirely familiar, Bob and Mil opt to engage in a test of strength. Neither man is really suited for this kind of combat. It runs counter to their styles. However, this is where experience counts heavily. Bob is more used to a fast moving style of wrestling. Mil prefers the same style, but has engaged in tests of strength before. He calls upon that experience in this situation. The second fall is soon awarded to Mascaras.

Both men are beginning to show signs of fatigue as the third fall begins. This is the most crucial action of all. Neither man wants to engage in another test of strength, so they revert back to the style with which they are most famous. And for a while, it appears this is to Mil's advantage.

Just minutes before the match is scheduled to end, Mascaras believes he has control. Backlund looks tired. But Mil is tired also. Still he thinks he can win.

Mil begins to climb the ropes, preparing to deliver one last flying bodypress. Backlund sees what is happening, but looks too tired to try and combat it. As Mil reaches the top rope, Bob turns to face his opponent. Mil leaps toward Backlund, sure he will soon have his young opponent on the canvas. But Backlund surprises him. He steps away, and Mil lands hard on the mat. Bob jumps on top of him. Within seconds, it is all over. Bob Backlund has won the Best Wrestler Tournament, and he has done an admirable job in doing so.

All the weeks of research, the hours of computer time, the thousands of fan ballots, the vicious in-fighting, and the grueling elimination matches have led to this point: Bob Backlund is, according to the computer, the best wrestler in the sport. This is a result everyone waited for. And it is highly significant. From now on, wrestlers will have to compare themselves with the greatness of young Bob Backlund, the winner of the Best Wrestler Tournament. □

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By the use of traction the doctor claims to INCREASE THE HEIGHT of his patients by SEVERAL INCHES. (From reports in recent national newspapers.)

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## FAT-BURNING SYSTEM - FOR THE BODY

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My name is Brad Mitchell. For many years I have helped thousands of people lose weight. And I believe I can help you!

I realize that today, there are so many weight loss products and programs on the market, that you are probably thoroughly confused as to which one is truly effective.

Everyone, both young and old is striving for that slim, sleek, youthful and energetic figure. The problem is how to achieve such a shape without damage to your health and at the same time keep your energy level high in order to cope with the tensions and rapid pace of today's world.

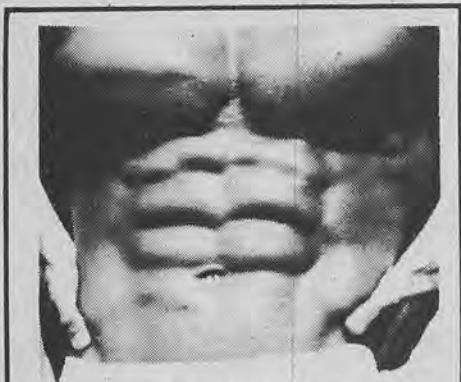
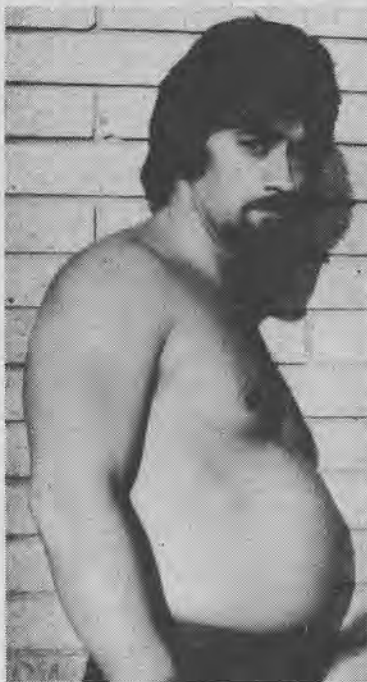
I have developed such a system!

I firmly believe that this Amazing Fat Burning system is the most effective system ever. I should know, just take a look at my before and after pictures. I lost 18 pounds of ugly fat, in only 15 days.

And, believe it or not, I kept my stomach full of food (no hunger pains).

And, my wife lost 40 pounds in only 30 days!

Since then, I have been continuously researching areas of nutrition, bodybuilding, and diet programs, in order to help thousands achieve that slim attractive shape desired by everyone. In fact everyone I put on this Amazing Fat Burning System, reported that they made fantastic weight losses--fast and easily!



### FREE WAIST COURSE!!

Order your Fat-Burning System today and we'll send you FREE our fantastic ABDOMINAL COURSE. This big book will show you how to have a trim, muscular waist in the fastest time possible! Get rid of that pot-belly and have a sexy, trim waist. You'll look and feel like a new man!

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I sincerely think it is! Why? Because many of the principles and methods used are the same as those used by top physique champions to eliminate all excess fat.

In fact, many physique champions reduce their body fat to the extreme, so that the skin becomes almost paper thin. Certainly you don't want to become extremely thin. But, it's nice to know that the Fat Burning System can accomplish

almost any weight reduction you desire. And isn't that what you want?

This system is so unique and effective (because it really works)--so much so, that we have had the system copyrighted with the US Government, so that the secrets cannot be copied and stolen!

### MAN OR WOMAN--YOUNG OR NOT SO YOUNG--THIS SYSTEM IS FOR YOU!

Everyone can use this system, regardless whether you're young or not so young. It doesn't matter whether you're 10 or 100 pounds overweight, or how many times you have tried to get into shape. With this new system you'll lose weight faster than ever before. In fact you'll have more energy, strength and endurance so that you will feel younger and enjoy a fuller more active life.

### I HAVE A SUPER EXERCISE FOR YOU! MORE EFFECTIVE THAN JOGGING!

To help you loose that fat even faster, I've developed a program for a Fun exercise that is more effective than jogging (in the same amount of time), yet it can be done in the privacy of your own bedroom. It takes only several minutes, three times a week to perform this unique exercise! This exercise is done by top athletes and even astronauts. You won't believe how fast your energy level will rise (and how fast you'll get back into shape).

### THIS AMAZING SYSTEM REQUIRES ONLY A MINIMAL AMOUNT OF YOUR TIME!

This system requires a small amount of your time (and some effort), but the results will be nothing short of miraculous! Our program offers you plenty of food to eat, plus supplements that will also help burn off the excess fat.

**IF YOU REALLY WANT TO BE TRIM AND SLIM...AND WITHIN DAYS BEGIN TO SEE A REAL DIFFERENCE**

### IN YOUR APPEARANCE--THEN THIS SYSTEM IS FOR YOU!

Remember, it doesn't matter how many times you have tried to lose weight, your time has finally come, with the Amazing Fat Burning System!

A healthy slim, trim and energetic figure is our goal--make it yours!

### SEE DRAMATIC RESULTS IN JUST DAYS...OR RETURN EVERYTHING FOR A FULL REFUND!

You have nothing to loose except fat. Try the Amazing Fat Burning System for a couple of weeks--if you don't feel that the results are fantastic in every way, you can return the system to us, and you'll get a full refund. Just like that! No questions asked.

Give it a try today.

Brad Mitchell  
27313 Plymouth Rd., Dept VI-4  
Detroit, Michigan 48239

Okay, Brad, I accept your offer! But I've got to feel that the Amazing Fat Burning System is the greatest and that the results will be nothing short of miraculous. Otherwise I'll send everything back for a full refund! I enclose \$9.95. (cash, check or money order)

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# I'll guide you step by step into your own thriving business

● While keeping your present job, would you like to gross \$14 or \$21 profit per hour?

a true story by Bob Ferrel

SOME YEARS AGO I was a printer in a small Michigan town. I drew a pretty fair pay check but it wouldn't stretch far enough to provide the kind of living I wanted for my wife and five children.

Then one day I was reading a magazine just as you now are and I saw an ad. It intrigued me. It offered me the steadily growing income I had always hoped for. It said I would have greater security and personal independence... and that's what I had been wanting.

I was a little skeptical, but I said to myself, "for a postage stamp I can find out." So I mailed the coupon. In a few days, I got a letter with a booklet that gave the whole story. It opened my eyes. I could see why owning my own business was so much easier than I had always thought... why the day to day guidance of a successful worldwide organization could assure my own success.

I read the booklet several times. It just seemed too good to be true. I talked it over with my wife. We decided that now was the time to make the forward step... there was no reason to keep postponing an income increase.

So, I applied for a Duraclean dealership and I was accepted. I stayed with my job... ran a few ads... sent some mailings... contacted a few stores and told my friends about the superior services I was now equipped to give them. Evenings and Saturdays, I rendered the service. As the business grew, I added servicemen.

I found that I didn't have to develop a single idea myself. Every step had been prepared for me and pre-tested. Hundreds of other men had already proven my methods successful.

It didn't take long to see that I was making three to four times (yes, 3 to 4 times) as much per hour in my own business as in my printing job. So, after only seven months with a good following of customers, I quit my job to go full time on my own. In the meantime, I had enjoyed all this extra income on top of my salary.

Each day, we realized what a serious mistake not mailing that coupon would have been... and how that little act that seemed so trivial at the time actually changed our lives.

The steadily growing income brought us

many things we could not afford before. My efforts were so much more productive. I scheduled my time to my own liking. When we wanted a day or two off, we took it. I worked hard but, if I wanted to be home early or quit at noon, I did.

This is not a business for a lazy man. But if a man is ambitious and will work to deserve those nice things in life we all want, this business is made to order for such a man.

I became so enthusiastic about this business and so appreciative of what it had brought my family that, whenever a man opened a dealership near me, I helped him get a quick start.

The company learned about this and had each new dealer in my section of Michigan spend a day with me. One day the president of Duraclean Company asked me how I would like to move to Headquarters and spend my entire time helping dealers to increase their sales and profits.

That was good news to my ears. Since then I have worked with hundreds of our dealers in their own towns and at regional meetings, conventions and dealer group meetings. But much of the time I am right here at my desk in touch with our dealers by letter and telephone.

Incidentally I sold my dealership at a good profit. Dealers sell their Duraclean businesses for up to ten times their cost. After 30 months, Leo Lubel sold for \$7,116 above his cost. If for any reason a dealer wants to sell, we maintain a service to locate buyers and help him sell.

Our job here at headquarters is to show each individual Duraclean dealer how to use his own abilities to bring him greatest success. I know hundreds of our dealers on a first name basis. We work together as one happy family. If you become a Duraclean dealer, I'll be as close to you as your telephone or mail box.

## It's Easier than You Think To Build Your Own Business

If you've wanted to BE YOUR OWN BOSS... to become financially independent and have a fast growing income, now YOU CAN. And you own a Nationally Advertised business.

You can stay at your present job while your customer list grows... then switch to full time, lining up jobs for your servicemen to do. One job a day brings a good starting income.

If you hire two servicemen (full or part time) while you keep your job, the national price guide provides you a gross profit of \$14 an hour on their work and this is much easier to do than you think. We show you how... step by step. That's \$490 for a 35 hour week.

Your gross profit on three servicemen is \$21 per hour. Duraclean dealers find it easy to gross \$7 per hour on EACH serviceman plus \$12 an hour on any service they themselves render. The 24 page illustrated booklet we'll mail you (with no obligation) explains how most of your gross profit becomes clear net profit. Your income is limited only by the number of servicemen you employ.

You can operate from a shop, office, or your home. Equipment is light and portable.

At the start, you may want to render service yourself... or you can start with full or part time servicemen. This business is easy to learn... easy to start... so easy to service that women dealers do it. We prefer you have no experience... not have to "unlearn" old ways.

We are NOW enlarging this worldwide system of individually-owned service businesses. If you are reliable, honest and willing to work to become financially independent, we invite you to mail the coupon.

When you receive our illustrated booklet, you will see the way we show you step by step how to quickly get customers... and still more customers from their recommendations.

You have 7 superior services that are rendered "on location" in homes, offices, hotels, theaters, clubs, motels and institutions.

These are not ordinary services. You have

the prestige and endorsement of leading furniture makers and carpet mills, of Parents' Magazine and McCall's, of Research and Testing Laboratories.

National magazine advertising explains superior merits of your services, builds your customer confidence and brings job leads to you.

We and a Duraclean dealer will train you and assist you. He'll reveal his successful, proven methods. You have pre-tested newspaper and yellow-page ads, commercials, and a full mailing program.

Stores, upholsterers, insurance adjustors, and decorators refer jobs to our dealers. These year 'round services are in constant demand.

## Start Small, Grow Big in this Booming Business

Many men have said to us, "I can't afford to give up my job till I know I have a sure thing... a sound business that will provide both security and a better living for my family."

That made sense to us so we worked out such a plan... and those same men are now enjoying a Duraclean dealership in many communities. You don't experiment. You use tested, proven methods. You have our backing and "know how."

Does this appeal to you? Don't decide now. Mail the coupon so you'll have the facts to decide wisely. There is no obligation. You'll then know whether this is what you want.

You can start small and grow big. A third century ago Duraclean was an idea... but it caught fire and spread to a world wide service. Why did it spread? (1) superior processes, (2) proven customer-getting methods (3) Day to day guidance from Headquarters.

Our first service, the care of upholstery and carpets not only cleans, it enlivens the fibers... revives dull colors. Pile rises with new life. There's no harsh machine scrubbing. No soaking. Mild aerated foam lightly applied lifts out dirt, grease, many unsightly spots like magic. Furnishings are used again in a few hours.

Government figures show service businesses are growing faster than industries and stores... \$750 million yearly potential just in rug and furniture cleaning. Your 6 other services are explained in the free booklet we'll mail you.

Less than \$1500 establishes YOUR OWN business. A day's profit more than pays the monthly payments we finance for you.

Men frequently take in partners.

We furnish electric equipment and, with first shipment, enough materials to return your TOTAL investment. If you have good habits and know the importance of customer satisfaction, you can likely qualify for a Duraclean dealership.

TODAY is the time to reserve a Duraclean dealership, before someone takes your location.

It's been said, "Opportunity knocks but once at every man's door." This could be that one rare opportunity in your life.

It is surprisingly easy to learn this business. You can decide from the information we will send you whether to apply for a dealership. So, with no obligation whatever, mail the coupon TODAY. Cut it out NOW so you won't forget to mail it.

## Mail this coupon TODAY It may put you in business

Duraclean International  
7-796 Duraclean Bldg., Deerfield, Ill. 60015

With no obligation, mail 24 page illustrated booklet telling how and why I can quickly increase my income and family security while still employed, how you'll help finance me. No salesman will call.

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# An ATLAS BODY? In 7 days

my method of DYNAMIC-TENSION starts giving you results you can feel and your friends will notice. Big, useful muscles. Gain pounds in weight where needed.

**Lose "pot belly."** Take a good honest look at yourself! Are you proud of your body — or are you satisfied to go through life being just "half the man" you could be? No matter how ashamed you are of your present physical condition — or how old or young you are — the "sleeping" muscles already present in your body can turn you into a REAL man! Believe me, I know — because I was once a skinny, scrawny 97-pound half-alive weakling! People used to laugh at my build and make fun of me. I was ashamed to strip for sports or the beach... shy of girls... afraid of healthy competition.

## HOW I CHANGED FROM A 97 LB. WEAKLING TO A REAL MAN.

One day, I discovered a secret that changed me from a timid, frightened scarecrow into "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man" — a "magic formula" that can help turn you, too, into a marvellous physical specimen... a REAL man from head to toe... a man who STANDS OUT in any crowd! What's my secret? "DYNAMIC-TENSION" — the natural method! No theory. No gadgets or contraptions. You just do as I did. Simply take the "sleeping" muscles already present inside your own body — build them up — use them every day in walking, bending over, reaching, even sitting! Almost before you know it, you're covered with a brand-new suit of beautiful, rock-hard SOLID MUSCLE!

## SEND FOR FREE BOOK AND 7 DAY TRIAL OFFER.

So sure am I of how fast "Dynamic-Tension" works that I make this offer to you. Try my course for 7 days and in even that short period of time you will have results that not only you can feel, but your friends will notice, or it costs you nothing. Send for my free book. **WRITE NOW!**  
CHARLES ATLAS Dept 218F  
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*Charles Atlas*

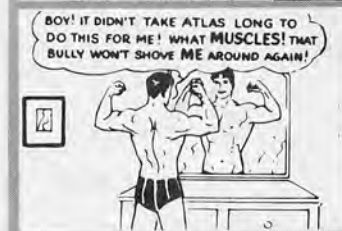


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BIG ARM MUSCLES?



POWERFUL LEGS?



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- ☐ BIG ARM MUSCLES
- ☐ TIRELESS LEGS
- ☐ MAGNETIC PERSONALITY
- ☐ BROAD BACK & SHOULDERS
- ☐ MORE WEIGHT

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